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# HIGH TIMES

June 437

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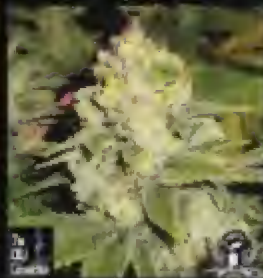
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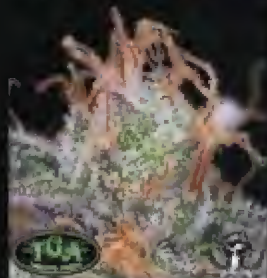
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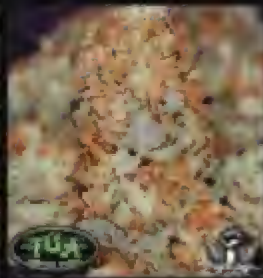
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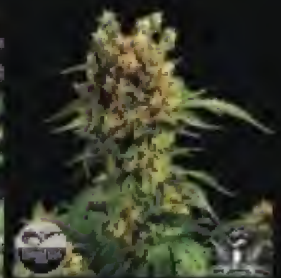
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# HIGH TIMES JUNE



*“The cannabis gene pool needs diversity, and growing from real male and female seeds is the best way to discover new and interesting marijuana varieties.”*

*—The Buds of Basque Country, Page 62*

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A rock legend recalls high times on and off the road, including the time our first issue inspired the creation of a legendary pot song. *By David Bienenstock*



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# Our Reality

**W**E'VE JUST RETURNED from the HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup in Los Angeles. It sure was nice to be in sunny California in the middle of February. Even better was the high quality of the ganja we encountered.

Cannabis enjoys a level of acceptance on the West Coast that those of us in most other parts of the country still only dream of. HIGH TIMES is based



in New York City, where things are decidedly different. In 2011, low-level arrests for marijuana possession increased here for the seventh straight year. A total of 50,684 unfortunate victims were busted; the majority spent a night or more in jail before being released, costing taxpayers approximately \$75 million. Even more appalling, in early February the New York Police Department gunned down Ramarley Graham in front of his grandmother and little brother. He'd allegedly been selling pot on a Bronx street corner, but fled into his house upon seeing the cops. They gave chase. Graham was busy flushing the pot down the toilet as the police burst in—

and when he was seen making “furtive” movements toward his waistband, according to the cops, one of them opened fire and killed the 18-year-old. But it turned out that Graham had no weapon at all, leaving angry residents in the community to question the NYPD's version of the events.

Living in a state that sanctions this kind of ugly war on its own citizens keeps the HIGH TIMES crew honest. We can't lose sight of the damage being done to America because of the War on Pot, because it's happening right in front of us.

These days, our nation is witnessing a sizeable internal migration: citizens who have decided to leave their repressive communities behind and put down roots in more pot-friendly states. After all, if you have a choice in the matter, why consent to have your life seriously disrupted or even destroyed simply for growing a harmless plant? Why allow your children to be labeled as criminals or even killed by the police? Why put their lives—or your own life—at risk? We can talk forever about our rights, but for most people, securing a safe, stable daily existence is far more important.

It's always been our goal to bring you the best information on cannabis culture and cultivation. This month, we deliver yet again with outstanding pieces on automated growing, feminized seeds, autoflowering strains and how to brew your own high-grade compost tea. We hope these articles make your garden great, but please be careful. As we all know—especially those of us who don't live in medical marijuana states or in communities that have made marijuana “crimes” their lowest law enforcement priority—associating with cannabis can be dangerous.

*Dan Skye*  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

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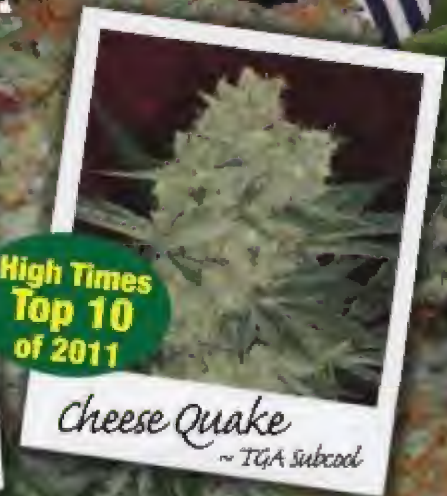
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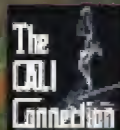
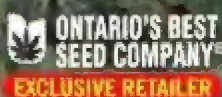
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### Pot and Pregnancy

I am a longtime migraine sufferer and marijuana lover, but now that I am pregnant, my migraines have gotten tremendously worse and harder to deal with, since I can't take the medicine I used before I was pregnant as it is not safe. I've talked to my Ob/Gyn and neurologist about ways to deal with it and they both agree that there isn't much I can do while pregnant. I was given some medicine, which doesn't work, and instructed to go to the E.R. when needed, which is sometimes as much as three times a week. I'm tired of rushing to the E.R. and being poked with needles multiple times and filled with morphine and other drugs.

If the E.R.'s drugs are safe enough to be administered to me—then why is marijuana any worse? I prefer cannabis, but I'm not sure if it would harm my baby. I am now 28 weeks along and except for my migraines, my baby and I are healthy. Please help! —Lizzie

In "Pot & Pregnancy" (February, '12), Dr. Melanie Dreher stated: "The uterus is an amazing organ that provides a lot of protection. Women should get rest and prepare for being good mothers—that's our responsibility to our children. But an occasional smoke of marijuana or drink of beer is not going to do bad things to anyone, and I don't want women to feel guilty about that."

### Sniff, Sniff

First, let me say how much I love your magazine and look forward to buying the issue every month. I love how HIGH TIMES touches on different subjects all the time, from grow ops to grow lights and everything in between. What I would love to see is an article on low-odor strains. I can think of a couple right off the bat, but there are so many more out there. Best wishes from Miami! —Jorge V.

We prefer high-odor strains because they tend to be more flavorful and potent. However, growers seeking low-odor strains should try Northern Lights #5 from Sensi Seeds, Chronic from Serious Seeds or Blue Mystic from Nirvana Seeds.

### Michigan Gains a Grower

First, I would like to thank you for all of your priceless advice and everything that you do for the movement. Without people like you, we would be nowhere as far as medical marijuana goes. Second, I would like to give my two cents on indoor marijuana growing. My wife and I live in Michigan and started our first indoor grow last year. We have had tremendous luck as far as quality and



### I love how HIGH TIMES touches on different subjects all the time, from grow ops to grow lights and everything in between.

abundance in our first year, and it seems that our luck came mostly from the radiator heat in our house. (The house we live in is very old—over 100 years.)

We decided to start our grow in an upstairs bathroom, and our hopes paid off huge! The plants love the atmosphere in this old house with radiator heat. Our favorite strain thus far is Jack Herer from Delicious Seeds, although I do have some OG from Reserva Privada that's looking very nice (this is our first OG plant).

We can't wait 'til HIGH TIMES is back in town for another Medical Cannabis Cup. Even though we live just 20 minutes from Detroit, we didn't go to the earlier one because we know how retarded our mayor, Dave Bing, is and how he loves to be a hypocrite! There are so many other "pot-friendly" cities in Michigan to consider—try Ann Arbor and you won't be disappointed. —J.C., USMC (ret.)

### Love from LA

I would like to extend my gratitude to the HIGH TIMES team for putting on such an amazing event. The other patients I brought with me also experienced a great time. I'd like to thank you guys for providing such a safe and fun environment

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for the medical marijuana community and I look forward to future events. —Angelo

### High Hobby

Hey, HIGH TIMES! Knitting is something I have discovered that, once I can convince stoners to learn it, makes for a wonderful smoking activity! I would really be interested to know if we're the only weirdos doing little-old-lady work while high. —The Stoned Knitter

We know a few knitters and they are hardly "weirdos." In fact, one of them just knitted us a bong from steel wool!

### A Sub Ad Star Is Born

Hey, I just wanted to let you know that I'm the guy on your subscription card. Thanks for using my pic! *Siiiiick*. Also, I don't know if you already know this, but the last person on your subscription card (Garth Vader) and I are best friends, coincidentally enough. It's awesome that we were both chosen on separate occasions to appear on your

card, and I wanted to know how we were picked? I think it's so cool, so thanks again! —Mike Tzanetakos

Congrats, but we had nothing to do with it. It was pure coincidence. The weed moves in mysterious ways...

### Mayan Miscommunication

In "Cashing In on the Earth Cashing Out" (March '12), Mike Hughes writes: "The Maya themselves are long dead." While many Maya did perish with the arrival of the Spaniards, not all were killed. Many of the Mayans stayed in the region and lived in cave dwellings. The assumption that they are "long dead" or extinct is false; they exist to this day. A close family member of mine is an Ashtanga Yoga teacher, who works with one of the only Mayan Time Keepers alive. However, they comment very little on 2012 predictions. According to my source, in their own words: "We never made predictions about the end of the world." They're upset about the misconception. Keep in mind that much of their tradition is oral and open to interpretation—so even the modern Mayan can't be completely sure. The writer is correct though; finding more information is infuriatingly vague. —Brian

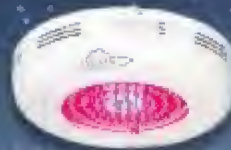
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**FORREST HEMP** In 1995, wearing a 100 percent hemp suit, the late, great Jack Herer posed for his first HIGH TIMES cover. In between shots, Jack relaxed on a park bench with a box of hemp stalks. Photographer Dan Skye saw a photo op. Jack accommodated him by pigeon-toeing his feet and looking wistful to create a stoned spin on the iconic image of Tom Hanks as Forrest Gump. We honored Jack with our Lifetime Achievement Award at the HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup in LA.



**Contact  
High**

**HIGH CLASS CUISINE** A few years back, the cannabis edibles market was pretty much confined to brownies, candy and cookies. It's a whole new world of dank dining now. Check out great high-flying recipes from *Cannabis Kitchen* (page 56), the new cannabis cookbook just released by HT's own Elise McDonough. *Photo by MG Imaging*





**Contact  
High**

**FUTUREWORLD** We don't want too much out of life, but being able to spend 90 percent of our time on leisure activities would be nice. Contributor Erik Biksa reports that in the not-so-distant future, our gardens will flourish while we pursue other pleasures. Read about the new *Grow-topia* in "21st Century Digital Grow" (page 47). *Photo by Dan Skye*







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# Highwitness News

The Medical Cannabis Cup makes LA rise and shine.



## Busts Pot Celebrities Go Down

Suge Knight, Robin Thicke and Dana Beal p. 24



## Food Stoner Strawberries

Edible delights span the food universe p. 38



Clockwise: WWE star wrestler Rob Van Dam on the LA Cup midway; Waxy Willy's tasty strains on display; attendees choose from an array of smokable.

## LIBERATION IN LA

The first annual HIGH TIMES Los Angeles Medical Cannabis Cup invades sunny Southern California drawing thousands of tokers to Tinseltown.

**San Francisco rightly** deserves credit as the birthplace of medical marijuana. Proposition 215, the historic measure passed by California voters in 1996 legalizing the medicinal use of cannabis, was conceived in the Bay Area and spearheaded by Dennis Peron, who founded the nation's first medical cannabis dispensary, the San Francisco Compassion Club, in 1994.

Bay Area cities like Oakland and San Francisco have navigated the political bureaucracy admirably over the years to institute strong medical marijuana programs. But throughout



Southern California, med-pot dispensaries have always faced strong opposition. Los Angeles County, which authorized a huge rollback in the number of dispensaries two years ago, has never been comfortable with legal marijuana. Some lawmakers have even advocated a total ban on dispensaries until the State Supreme Court can sort the mess out.

Now, almost 16 years after the passage of Prop. 215, the state's entire medical marijuana



The products of C.A.S.A. of Riverside lured the cannabis curious.

## Hundreds strolled among the booths checking out the vendors and their various wares.

Companies marketing non-cannabis products—clothing, paraphernalia and cultivation gear—were purposely kept separate from the 215 Area, where legal patients could medicate. That area, in turn, was fenced off in order to ensure that only those with the proper certification could avail themselves of the smokeable merchandise within.

An indoor auditorium provided attendees with a venue to attend a variety of seminars, which ran the gamut

from legalization to cultivation and featured the top players of the SoCal pot community. And one floor above that, MAPS (the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies) mounted an exhibition of visionary artwork.

But let's get back to that medicating area: Everyone knows what an amusement-park midway looks like on a weekend summer afternoon. The 215 Area wasn't much different, as hundreds strolled among the booths checking out

the vendors and their various wares. Dispensaries lined up formations of jars for display, their golden-green jewels glistening in the sun, and those who were marketing edibles laid out platters of bite-sized, pot-infused treats for the crowd. But at this particular Cup event, the dab was king.

In case you haven't heard by now, a "dab" is a hit of high-potency cannabis concentrate. Most often, it's ingested by heating up a flat metal surface with a blowtorch and then touching the concentrate to that hot surface. The smoke is inhaled by placing a cover over the now-smoking concentrate; a bong can easily be converted into an instrument for dabbing. The technique delivers a powerful, high-THC dose that many med-pot patients swear by for its speed and efficiency in relieving pain (and also because it greatly reduces the amount of medicine required). Nearly all of the dispensaries represented in the 215 Area offered dabs, and few were refused.

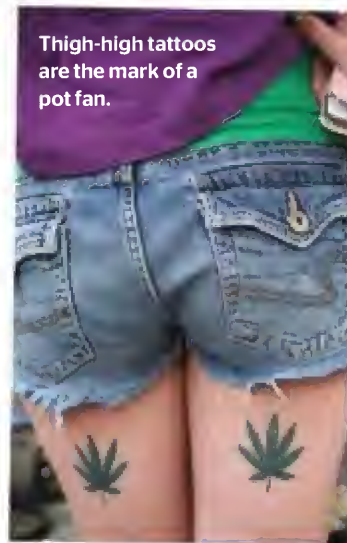
community is still at risk as federal authorities step up their harassment of the industry. US prosecutors allege that medical cannabis laws are being used as a shield for "criminal activity and profiteering." That's why an event like the HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup stands as a loud, colorful retort to the Feds.

While the City by the Bay may have been the incubator for medical cannabis, Los Angeles had the population to speed its growth. The Bay Area's population stands at just over seven million, while that of Greater Los Angeles is closer to 17 million. That means more growers, more gardens and more ganja, plus generations of Angelenos who use cannabis liberally and who strongly support full legalization. After holding four previous Medical Cannabis Cups state-side—in Denver, Detroit and twice in San Francisco—we decided it was high time that HIGH TIMES arrived at the heart of the reactor in order to give Los Angeles its due.

For the event, the Los Angeles Center Studios complex was converted into a tented neighborhood to host both the commercial concerns of the cannabis industry and the nonprofit, activist organizations. The location consists of an outdoor plaza with accompanying multi-purpose buildings, tucked into the middle of the downtown grid of high-rises. The complex is used for a variety of functions, even serving as a movie set when a self-contained urban location is required.

After consulting with the Los Angeles Police Department on multiple occasions

as to the purpose and intent of the HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup, we swung the doors open wide to the public on February 11 for a two-day expo, culminating in an awards show that honored the finest cannabis products of Southern California. The outdoor plaza was divided into two separate areas: Activist organizations and



Thigh-high tattoos are the mark of a pot fan.



Dabs were the order of the day.



**CHEWS  
WISELY.**

[www.CheebaChews.com](http://www.CheebaChews.com)



The girls of Ganja Juice were a walking advertisement.

**Golden-green jewels glistened in the sun, and those who were marketing edibles laid out platters of bite-sized, pot-infused treats for the crowd.**

**LA MEDICAL CANNABIS CUP WINNERS**

**BEST SATIVA**

- 1) Sonoma Coma, by Happy Lil' Trees
- 2) Organic Blue Dream Haze, by American Organic Collective
- 3) Dutch Treat #5, by Buds and Roses Collective

**BEST CONCENTRATE**

- 1) F'n Ridiculous OG Budder, by Crown Extracts
- 2) 310 OG Budder, by Venice Medical Center
- 3) Confidential Mix (solvent-less), by Buds and Roses Collective

**BEST EDIBLE**

- 1) Bhang Medicinal Cannabis Chocolate (the 180 mg "Ice" bar), by Bhang Collective/Zen OC
- 2) Cheeba Chews Decadose, by DPC Inc.
- 3) Aussie Roc, by Bud and Roses Collective

**BEST PRODUCT**

- 1) Mama P's Wholesome Grinder
- 2) Incredibowl
- 3) Grass Roots



Dan Herer accepts his late father's award.



All smiles for Master Yoda.

Hitman's otherworldly bong won for Best Glass.



Bone Thugs-N-Harmony presented Best Hybrid to the Kush Connection.

At the far end of the outdoor plaza, a stage had been erected for Saturday night's concert, with EOTO and Seedless rocking the assembled Cup goers. On Sunday night, the stage also served as the podium for the presentation of the HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup winners, which included a Lifetime Achievement Award for the late Jack Herer—accepted by his son, Dan—and a special message from San Francisco medical-marijuana pioneer Dennis Peron himself that gladdened the hearts of the crowd: "As far as legal cannabis, we're almost there," he proclaimed to cheers.

Maybe we are. And if the energy of the Southern California cannabis industry is any indication, we'll get there soon. 🌿

Be sure to attend the next HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup in Denver on April 21-22. Go to [medcancup.com](http://medcancup.com).

View strains of the LA Cup: [hightimes.com/cupla](http://hightimes.com/cupla)



Get the free mobile app: [www.gettag.mobi](http://www.gettag.mobi)



Cup awards host Rob Cantrell on the prowl.

**BEST INDICA**

- 1) Doc's Cut, by Therapeutic Healing Center
- 2) Kosher Kush, by Buds and Roses Collective
- 3) Kosher Kush, by Magnolia Wellness

**CBD AWARD FOR TOP MEDICAL STRAIN**  
Catango, by the Unity Non Profit Collective

**BEST BOOTH**

- 1) Incredibowl
- 2) Hitman Glass
- 3) Steep Hill Lab (tie)

**BEST HYBRID**

- 1) Master Yoda, by Kush Connection
- 2) Starberry Cough, by Buds and Roses Collective
- 3) Platinum OG, by Vivid Research Cooperative, Inc.

**BEST GLASS**

- 1) Hitman Glass
- 2) Incredibowl
- 3) Dopeass Glass



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# Two and a Half Stoners

Charlie Sheen may have left *Two and a Half Men*, but the show's popularity continues with Ashton Kutcher as his replacement, plus another recurring character—ganja! The producers have been filling the show with pot-related plots and refreshingly casual depictions of marijuana use. In the episode "A Giant Cat Holding a Churro," Kutcher's character Walden throws a party to cheer up co-star Jon Cryer's lovable loser Alan and serves some pot brownies. In "The Duchess of Dull-in-Sack," Walden again turns to brownies, this time to get his uptight British girlfriend Zoey (Sophie Winkleman) to loosen up sexually. Since she fondly recalls getting high in college, she tries one, but ends up freaking out and running onto the beach.

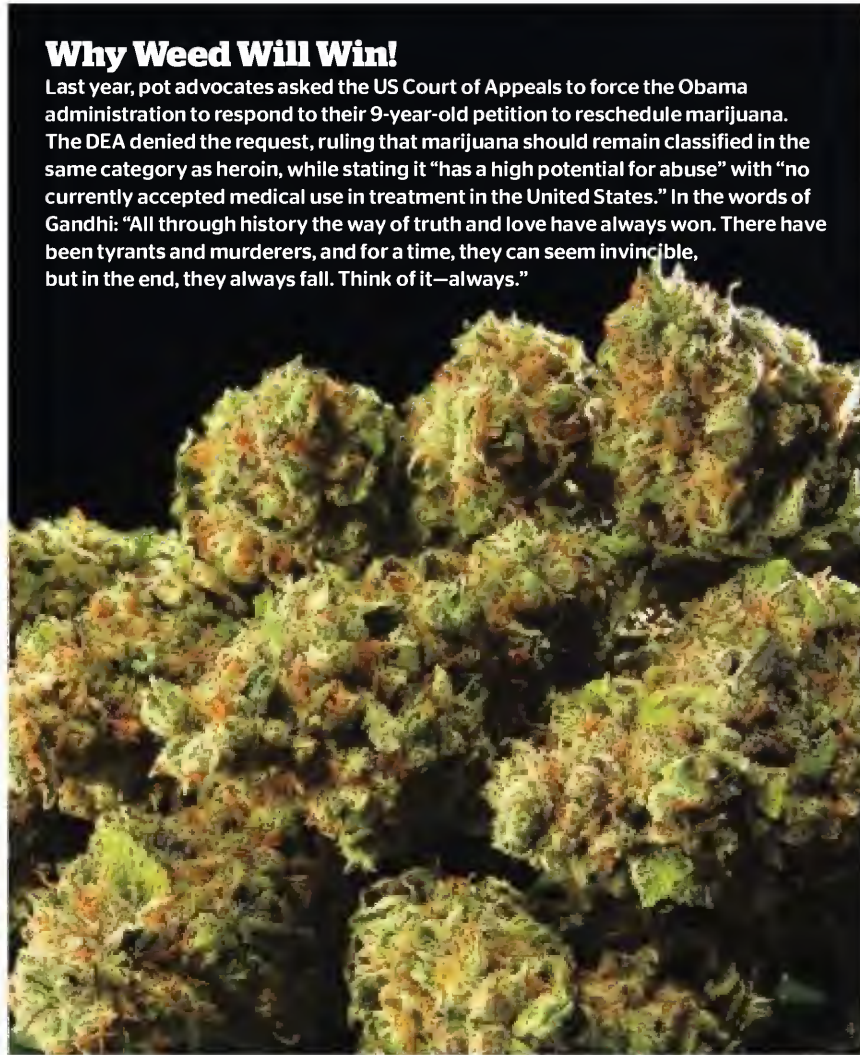
*Know your dosage, dammit!*

The show has been candid as well about pot use by Alan's teenage son Jake (Angus T. Jones) and his best friend Eldridge (Graham Patrick Martin), who also feasted on brownies. In addition, a smoke-filled bong has been prominently displayed in their scenes. TV sure has come a long way from the sitcoms of old, in which any mention of pot use—especially by teens—was touted as a "very special episode." Those shows always ended with the character learning a valuable "lesson": that pot is evil incarnate.



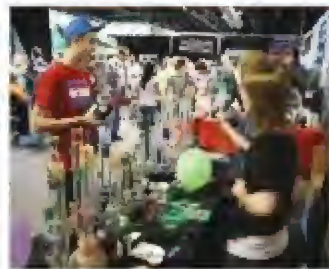
## Why Weed Will Win!

Last year, pot advocates asked the US Court of Appeals to force the Obama administration to respond to their 9-year-old petition to reschedule marijuana. The DEA denied the request, ruling that marijuana should remain classified in the same category as heroin, while stating it "has a high potential for abuse" with "no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States." In the words of Gandhi: "All through history the way of truth and love have always won. There have been tyrants and murderers, and for a time, they can seem invincible, but in the end, they always fall. Think of it—always."



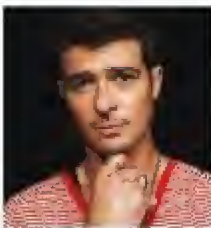
## Knight Booking

Suge Knight brought us *The Chronic* back in 1992, when his now-defunct label, Death Row Records, released Dr. Dre's innovative G-funk hip-hop classic. Now, just in time for the LP's 20th anniversary, Suge was busted for pot in Las Vegas this past February after police pulled him over for a lane violation. Upon learning that Knight had three outstanding warrants, the cops conducted a search of his Bentley and turned up less than an ounce of chronic. Knight was booked and released after posting bail, but since the bust is a violation of his parole conditions, the music mogul could soon be chilling in the slammer once again.



## Medical Cannabis Cup Returns to Denver

Now that a Colorado voter initiative is on the November ballot that would legalize adult possession of marijuana for personal recreational use, there's no better time to mount the second HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup in Denver. Once again, our weekend expo will feature the top canna-businesses of Colorado showcasing a plethora of merchandise tailored to the two distinct segments of the marijuana marketplace—cultivator and consumer. Plus, the movers and shakers of the Rocky Mountain pot scene will be on hand to participate in a variety of seminars dealing with the challenges of our new industry and the road to full legalization. Come to EXDO on April 21-22 and be part of the growing cannabis community! Visit [medcancup.com](http://medcancup.com)



## In the Thicke of It

As we detailed in this month's editor's letter (page 8), the arrest rates for simple possession in New York City are sky-high and climbing, costing the city's taxpayers at least \$75 million a year. You can add singer Robin Thicke to the thousands of unfortunate pot smokers who've experienced "justice" in the Big Apple. In February, Thicke was arrested after cops caught him smoking a joint while sitting in a car in midtown Manhattan. (The car was parked while he shared a joint with a friend.) Only Thicke was charged, but because of his celebrity status, he didn't have to sit in jail awaiting processing like most arrestees—instead, the cops had their pictures taken with him and asked for autographs.

## Beal Back to Jail

In January, Dana Beal—the Yippie radical and founder of the annual Worldwide Marijuana Marches—returned to prison to finish out the remainder of his prison sentence. He was arrested in January 2011 in Madison, WI, after 180 pounds of pot were discovered in his van. While in the county jail awaiting transfer last year, he suffered a serious heart attack. He was released for two months to undergo double-bypass surgery, and now he's required to finish out the remaining 11 months of his sentence.

"Prison is just boring," Beal said before his departure.





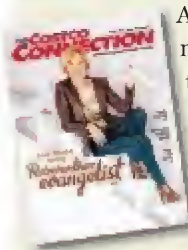


### More Jobs = More Drunks?

When any category of drug shows a spike in use, the Drug Czar, politicians and law enforcement all join forces to condemn the increase while vowing to fight the scourge. But with booze, it's a different story—because, supposedly, more booze equals good news for the economy (especially if you're in the alcohol industry). Liquor sales increased 2.7 percent in 2011, which was close to the 2.9 percent growth that the industry experienced in 2008 before the economic collapse. And sales of high-end brands of booze are also up.

"We are back to pre-recession growth levels," says David Ozgo, an economist with the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States, who theorized that growing consumer confidence about the job market is responsible.

### Costco Jumps In



As momentum for marijuana legalization grows, the issue is popping up everywhere—even in shopping aisles. Costco, the national "club" supermarket

wherein members pay an annual fee to take advantage of low-price, bulk shopping opportunities, publishes *The Costco Connection*, a monthly lifestyle magazine read by almost 20 million people. In the March issue's "Informed Debate" section, Drug Policy Alliance's executive director Ethan Nadelmann squares off against Robert DuPont, founding director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse. The issue: "Should Marijuana Be Legal?" Costco shoppers, who know all about saving, may have a problem with the whopping \$42 billion Uncle Sam spends on pot prohibition annually.



Obama's chopper gets buzzed.

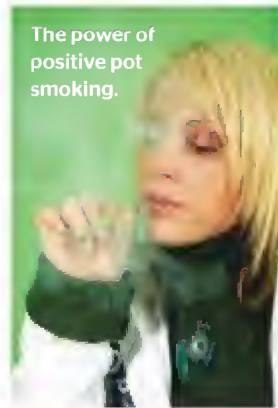
### High-Altitude Bust

We've all heard tales about some poor sap driving a load of weed, only to get pulled over for a minor traffic violation and end up with a major felony rap. This bust was no different—only it happened thousands of feet in the air. In February, the pilot of a single-engine Cessna in Southern California came face-to-face with two F-16's after his small plane, flying out of Santa Maria, strayed into an eight-mile-wide zone of airspace that had been temporarily restricted because the US presidential helicopter, Marine One, was en route to LAX with Barack Obama inside.

The North American Aerospace Defense Command, better known as NORAD, quickly scrambled the two military jets out of Riverside County to escort the wayward pilot to Long Beach Airport, where local police searched his plane and found 40 pounds of pot. The Secret Service confirmed that the president's chopper was never in danger, and Obama went on to be feted at various fundraisers in Los Angeles.

### Stoned & Alive

For many people, pot instills a sense of euphoria or at least optimism, but a new study shows that it can go even further, linking medical cannabis to a noticeable reduction in suicides. Germany's Institute for the Study of Labor recently issued "High on Life? Medical Marijuana Laws and Suicides," which assessed the data for the years 1990 to 2007. The researchers estimated an overall 5 percent decrease in the suicide rate in states that have legalized medical marijuana. Even more encouraging was the solid 11 percent decrease in suicides among men ages 20 to 29,



The power of positive pot smoking.

and a 9 percent drop among men ages 30 to 39.

Experts theorize that this decrease could be due to the fact that marijuana consumption helps users cope with the kind of "negative life shocks"—divorce, the loss of a job, the death of a loved one—that can trigger suicidal inclinations. Also, pot users consume less alcohol, a drug that is highly associated with suicide. More research on the subject is

required, specifically regarding female suicide rates in med-pot states. But even so, the study gives scholarly credence to something that all pot lovers already know: It makes you feel better!

### Lobby Full of Patients

To play—and, more importantly, win—the game of politics, lobbying power and influence are essential. Those rules certainly apply to medical marijuana, and that necessity sparked the formation of a nationwide coalition dubbed the National Patients Rights Association (NPRA). Based in Michigan, one of the 16 states that have legalized medical



marijuana, the NPRA will lobby legislators, prosecutors and local governments to push vigorously

for comprehensive, organized and cohesive implementation of medical-cannabis laws.

According to its official press release, the NPRA will seek a definitive standardization of the laws and regulations governing medical marijuana, including such things as "safety and storage needs, document

management requirements, privacy, and overall industry standards and procedures."

One of the NPRA's first efforts will be to oppose Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette's illegal circumvention of the state's 2008 medical cannabis act (approved by 63 percent of voters) and convince Michigan legislators to adopt a system of taxation for pot sales similar to that of Colorado.



**Chess Pieces  
Book Release Party**

**4.20.2012**

**Illuzion Glass Gallery  
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Evening Event**

Chess themed glass pipes from  
the most cutting edge contemporary  
borosilicate glass blowers in America.



A rare disc of Moroccan-style hash accompanies Jim on drums.

## HOW THE PROS HIT THE HIGH NOTE

On the eve of releasing *What Happened to the LaLas*, the tenth studio album from jam band champions moe., percussionist Jim Loughlin sat down with HIGH TIMES to discuss what it's like playing stoned during a gig, and gives a shout out to his favorite Dutch coffee shop.

By Jen Bernstein

**Your roots are in improvisational music—and moe. is well known as a jam band. Do you like to go off on tangents?**

It's weird because it's not a freeform situation and people think it is. There is a form in which we improvise. I don't look at it the same way as jazz. It's rock 'n' roll. There are sections that are free, but surrounded by form.

We write and play songs for a year [before recording them] and they tend to get long. *Really* long. Parts are repeated. It works for a live performance, but listening to it on a record can be like, 'Oh my god. I know what the next part is, so why don't they just get there already?' [laughs].

So that's what we did. We figured out how to keep the songs tight, but really make them flow.

**"Chromatic Nightmare" is your first writing credit. It has a very psychedelic feel, like a lilting circus type of sound.**

I originally wrote the song as a rag. Xylophones were big in ragtime back in the day, and a lot of Scott Joplin's stuff was played on xylophones. The idea was everyone was going to write a song for the Halloween show, which the theme was "Electric Lemoe.nade Acid Test." So I was like, this has nothing to do with a rag and I made the song weirder and weirder until it morphed. Instead of it being in 4/4 it was in 3/4 and I kept adding lots of half steps to make it chromatic. So it had this weird "oom-pah" feel, and it got more Tim Burton-ish.

**You nail the studio version despite what ended up being a challenging piece. Does smoking ever affect your performance?**

It definitely comes up. We find a lot of professionals that don't have a hard time doing their job and smoking weed. As far as playing music, I don't think it makes much difference. I know I couldn't

### A Nightmare of a Song?

"When first playing 'Chromatic Nightmare' we sped up the song as it got to the end. It just got ridiculous, and Rob and Vin thought it was really funny that we kept going and going to the point where it was too challenging to even play."

play "Chromatic" drunk. But, uh, I've been smoking for awhile and I'm used to it. It does slow things down on stage to the point where I can control it.

**moe. played the Cannabis Cup back in 2007. What was it like playing those shows and hanging in the coffeeshops?**

It was fun, and the funny thing is...and this isn't a plug or anything, but I spent all of my time at Barney's. No joke, I ate every meal there. It's where I had my morning coffee, and I wouldn't leave until I had to take a nap. Then, I'd go back and eat dinner. I had already been to Amsterdam, saw the tulips, the museums and everything. So this time I had no schedule. They had a crazy G-13 strain that was really nuts.

**Can you remember any other strains you liked?**

Honestly, the best way I can explain it is like this: I only know of two kinds of pot—pot and no pot. I'm happy when I have the first, and not as happy when I have the latter.

Y'know, a lot of people know that I smoke and some people give me stuff and there's always this explanation: the name, where it came from. I don't mean to rude, but I'm not a connoisseur. To me, I like how it tastes and I recognize the difference, but I never keep track of what I have. These days, it's all good! [laughs] and I haven't smoked brick weed in decades, so I'm happy. 🌿

Watch Jim perform live at:  
[hightimes.com/jimloughlin](http://hightimes.com/jimloughlin)



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# 2012 SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL GUIDE

Forget couch tour. Get out and see live music.

CROWD FESTIVAL PERFORMERS \$\$\$ & INFO WHEN & WHERE WHAT TO EXPECT WHAT TO BRING

## HOMIES

### Gathering of the Juggalos

Insane Clown Posse, Twiztid, Blaze Ya Dead Homie, ABK, Boondox, DJ Clay, Mike E. Clark, Cold 187 AKA Big Hutch

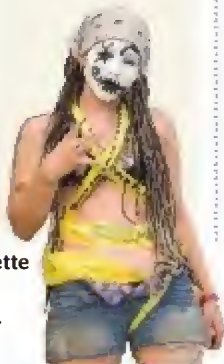
*Bonus round:* contests, events, seminars, JCW wrestling, late night parties and don't forget: 2012 is the year of the Ninjas.

August 8-12  
Cave-In-Rock, IL

\$200  
juggalofest.com

Ready for a game of poop dollar? How 'bout broken glass wrestling? The Gathering attracts the most outcast scene imaginable—from hatchet-wielding clowns to hardcore gangsters.

40s; luau and grill gear; first aid kit; special k; condoms; smokes; spliffs; baby oil; speedo.



This juggalette is missing her hatchet.

## ROCKERS

### Mountain Jam

Steve Winwood, Gov't Mule, Michael Franti & Spearhead, The Word, The Roots, Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue, Karl Denson's Tiny Universe, Ben Folds Five, Dawes, Gary Clark Jr., Givers, Mariachi El Bronx, Bustle in Your Hedgerow, Eoto

May 31-June 3  
Hunter Mountain, NY

\$160  
mountainjam.com

Get high on Hunter Mountain or the ski lift. Time it right and you'll be blazin' as your fave band hits the main stage. Hit up the ropes course, acoustic stage and late night ragers.

Bowl; liquor; grill; camping gear; field blanket; good shoes.

**"What's better than being surrounded by gorgeous green mountains, your best friends and awesome music?"**

—Karen Sweeney, Denver

Activist Wavy Gravy clowns around.

## HIPPIES

### Gathering of the Vibes

Phil Lesh & Friends, Bob Weir, Bruce Hornsby, Branford Marsalis, The Avett Brothers, 7 Walkers, Royal Family Ball, Zappa Plays Zappa

**"Although the Vibes boasts jam band music, as well as other types of music, the Grateful Dead spirit will always be found there."**

—Nadina Simon, New York

July 19-22  
Seaside Park, Bridgeport, CT

\$185  
gatheringofthevibes.com

The Vibe Tribe stands strong not only in numbers, but also as the headiest and most colorful of psychedelic and jam-friendly fests. Wavy Gravy waxes poetic from the stage between sets.

High-grade nuggets; sunscreen; body paint; one-hitter; mushies; LSD; positivity and love for all mankind.



## METAL HEADS

### Orion Fest

Metallica, Arctic Monkeys, Avenged Sevenfold, Modest Mouse, The Gaslight Anthem, Cage The Elephant, Fucked Up, Best Coast, Hot Snakes, Titus Andronicus, Gary Clark Jr., Lucero, Anthem, The Sword, The Black Angels, A Place to Bury Strangers, Liturgy



June 23-24  
Bader Field, Atlantic City, NJ

\$175  
orionmusicandmore.com

Headlining both nights, Metallica will perform *The Black Album* and *Ride the Lightning* at their first-ever "lifestyle" fest—playing host to some of their favorite bands on multiple stages.

Steel-toe boots; devil horns; earplugs; Zippo; portable bong; joints; hash oil and knives.

We can't wait to watch Flea slap his bass.

## HIPSTERS

### Bonnaroo

Radiohead, Phish, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Beach Boys, Alice Cooper, Bon Iver, Ludacris, Feist

**"This will be my fifth Bonnaroo. Where else could I see my two favorite bands, Phish and Radiohead, headline a fest together?"**

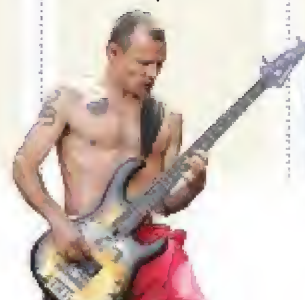
—Lacy Boughn, Los Angeles

June 7-10  
Manchester, TN

\$259.50  
bonnaroo.com

Translated as "a really good time" festival-goers flock to the 700-acre 'rue to rock out with popular "It" bands. Scope the comedy, cinema and "This," "That" and "The Other" tents.

Sandals; spray bottle for heat; bathing suit; bandana for dust; retractable lighter; MDMA; weed; CamelBak to fill with liquor.



## ELECTRONIC UNTZ-ERS

### Camp Bisco

Disco Biscuits, Skrillex, Bassnectar, Atmosphere, Big Boi, A-Trax, Lotus, Simian Mobile Disco (DJ set), Portugal. The Man, Zeds Dead, Big Gigantic, Bonobo (DJ set), Break Science w/ Chali 2na, Rubblebucket, Brothers Past, Gramatik.

July 12-14  
Indian Lookout Country Club; Mariaville, NY

\$170  
campbisco.net

Festival grounds feature blunt-wrapping stations, bros sporting flat-brims and muddy feet that pound to the experimental, electronic beats of the Biscuits.

Glow-in-the-dark-blinky jewelry; nitrous; weed; LSD; concentrates, oil rig and dabbers; MDMA.



Disco Biscuits used to be slang for quaaludes.

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SuperCloner 50 Site System with 100% Cloning, Vegetative and Germinating Success!

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### SuperFlower

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### SuperLocker

60" h x 18" w x 24" d



### BigBuddhaBox

72" h x 36" w x 36" d



### SuperRooms

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# ELECTRIC CHURCH MUSIC

Eric Church has got the (country) rock, and he's getting stoned. *By Chris Parker*

**For all of** its alleged outlaws, Nashville has always been a company town. So when someone like Eric Church achieves success without kowtowing to the country establishment—as he did with last year's chart-topping album, *Chief*—people take notice. It also doesn't hurt when you can turn a song about smoking pot into a radio hit.

"For a while, we were pariahs. People didn't know what to make of us before *Chief* went No. 1," Church says.

After releasing his well-received debut album, *Sinners Like Me*, in 2006, Church performed at the Grand Ole Opry and scored an opening slot on tour with country superstars Rascal Flatts. But he ran into a conflict over stage time and set length and ended up not only being kicked off the tour, but blackballed by country promoters for two years.

"We started playing clubs and bars," Church says. "It's there we really found ourselves as performers."

He drew upon his teenage love of hard rock (Metallica, AC/DC), imbuing the music of his North Carolina country roots with a raw rock energy and attitude, and steadily built a grassroots following—thereby winning his way back into promoters' hearts.

Church had already established his rebellious streak when he insisted that his teen pregnancy song "Two Pink Lines" be used as his debut album's third single. And when he released his follow-up record, 2009's *Carolina*, he defied his label and management by making "Smoke a Little Smoke" the third single. The catchy ode to carpe diem works a jammy folk-blues groove as Church suggests putting some "feel-good in my soul—drink a little drink,



Eric nugging for the camera.

smoke a little smoke."

"I had people tell me I was crazy: 'You have two Top 10 hits—you're starting to get your foot in the door,'" Church recalls. "I really just followed the people: Every night I'd go out there, and it was far and away the biggest

**Church suggests putting some "feel-good in [your] soul—drink a little drink, smoke a little smoke."**

song we played. They would tear the place down. I finally decided, 'I don't care if it's the end of my career—it *has* to be this song.' It ended up being the song that changed everything for us."

Thanks in large part to that late-blooming hit, his third album, *Chief*, debuted atop *Billboard's* national charts and soon went gold, leading to Church's first

national tour as an arena headliner. On that album, he again turns a pot reference into a great song with the clever, slinky, blues-rocking "I'm Gettin' Stoned," which laments an ex-girlfriend's marriage to another man with its chorus, "She got a rock, and I'm gettin' stoned."

Though that one isn't a single yet, Church was back in the (s)potlight with his appearance in the Toby Keith video "Red Solo Cup," wherein he turns the popular party-drink receptacle into a smoking device.

"Toby comes on the bus and says, 'Man, we've got the stupidest song you've ever heard in your life!'" Church recalls.

"Nobody's going to ever hear it; we're going to just do this little viral video. Nobody's going to ever see this thing—it's just viral. We would *never* put this on the radio."

"I kid you not: One week later, this thing was all over the *world*, and the song became a runaway hit. Every time I see Toby, I say, 'I really appreciate that you didn't do anything with that song.'" 🌿

Check out Eric's cameo at:  
[hightimes.com/church](http://hightimes.com/church)



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**Eric Church on his "Red Solo Cup" bong:**  
"My tour manager and production manager had to use stuff we had on the road. It was very MacGyver. They used things like mike screens. My tour manager asked, 'How long until you need it?' then said 'Gimme an hour' and took off. They came back with one of the better smoking devices I've seen."



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UNSIGNED BAND  
OF THE MONTH:

## International Orange

Drawing on decades of experience in New York City and around the world, International Orange boasts a palette that is wide-ranging. Mike Gordon band drummer/percussionist Todd “t.ice” Isler infuses jazz with a strong swagger, tying together his knowledge of R&B, funk and world music influences from Africa, India and Brazil to bear on this dynamic threesome.

Guitarist David Phelps flies full speed under the radar, blending music from different continents and styles in a whirlwind of nuance and sonic transcendence. His use of tapping and vibrato-bar techniques, rhythmic



cycles, and electronic guitar pedals expands the scope of his very personal statements.

While studying economics in Japan, Gaku Takanashi played bass for many prominent Japanese pop stars. Twenty years ago, he experienced a musical epiphany and came to New York. He has no regrets; currently, his work includes playing with many jazz, R&B and reggae musicians.

International Orange audio samples and tour dates are available at [hightimes.com/internationalorange](http://hightimes.com/internationalorange).

Musik and King Julia  
take the high road.



## ALTERED STATES

Pot and positivity give Fifth Nation their groove.

**The first time** I saw Fifth Nation was at Hank’s Saloon in Brooklyn. The duo came onstage with all the presence of seasoned rock stars. Dressed in white from head to toe, lead vocalist King Julia’s sparkling rhinestones and drummer Musik Read’s impossibly tall, green, four-point double-hawk instantly had my attention.

And then it was time to get down. King Julia has pipes that deliver clear, positive lyrics from a beaming, all-inclusive smile. Behind her, Musik joins in passionately for some backup vocals, but more remarkable is the way that his lengthy frame encompasses the entire drum kit. He does not often sit down, but instead plays every angle of percussion in a wild dance accompanying the music.

Musik and Julia first met at an Austin, TX, house party in 2008. Friends asked Julia to go onstage with her guitar, and when she began to sing, Musik—stunned by her voice—immediately got behind the vacant drum kit.

“After we met, we were like, ‘We have some shit to get done,’” King Julia tells *HIGH TIMES*. They deliberately went sober—no drinking or weed—in an effort to focus and save money. “We toured for six months, put out a record, then we moved to New York and were feeling more

settled. Then we relaxed again.”

They made a lot of amazing progress, especially the release of 2009’s *Flight*—but, Musik adds, “During the time we said no to weed, we definitely met less people than when we started smoking herb again.”

**Fifth Nation’s  
“rock ‘n’ soul”  
positivity makes  
for a show that  
sticks to the bones.**

And that initial focus hasn’t waned. They’ve steadily released an album each year.

They’ve also come up with innovative marketing ideas such as Just Eat Music, which delivers lollipops complete with EP download codes. And Musik is already

looking to the future: “Hopefully, one day they’ll legalize and we can make *pot* lollipops.”

With so many indie acts choosing to illustrate the sadness and grit of existence, Fifth Nation’s “rock ‘n’ soul” positivity makes for a show that sticks to the bones.

“It’s the time of the world right now,” Julia says. “People are really coming up and saying, ‘This is who we are, and we’re proud of it.’ We’re not spearheading anything, but we are part of a movement that is attempting wholeheartedly to unite people and to love them and encourage them to not be so fearful. Because it *is* a hard life, and we’re all going through the same thing.”

Mary Ought Six





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## A TRIP WITH JANIS & OWSLEY

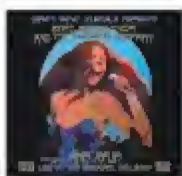
Newly released music played and recorded by San Francisco's finest.

**Known to acidheads** as Owsley and to Deadheads as Bear, Augustus Owsley Stanley III is usually revered for the quality and quantity of LSD he cooked up and distributed in the late 1960s. He also expanded people's consciousnesses through other means: While in the US Air Force, he studied electronics and later applied that knowledge to improving the primitive sound systems of '60s rock bands. As with all of the disciplines he mastered, he developed strong opinions about properly presenting "loud."

When four of San Francisco's rock giants *du jour* (the Grateful Dead, Jefferson Airplane, Quicksilver Messenger Service, and Big Brother and the Holding Company) operated a communal ballroom called the Carousel, Owsley was put in charge of the sound—and, in order to test it, he recorded "sonic journals" for reference. Here's an extraordinary example: a night of Janis Joplin and the boys at their height. Big Brother was a fascinating band, a blend of garage rock and electric blues, free jazz and psychedelia, fronted by a legend. The raw, snarling energy that punks have claimed hippies lacked

is here in full force. And despite the complaints that Janis deserved better musicians, just listen to "Summertime": The guitarists nail Freddie King blues, Bach baroque and ur-metal all in one song.

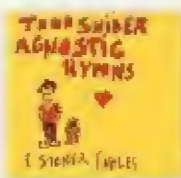
Here we have rock pioneers at the top of their game, captured by a cat who knew all about trips, making this one hell of a great one. *Michael Simmons*



### Big Brother and the Holding Company, featuring Janis Joplin

*Live at the Carousel Ballroom 1968*  
(Columbia/Legacy)

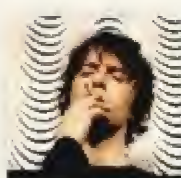
## MUSIC RECOMMENDATIONS



### Todd Snider *Agnostic Hymns & Stoner Fables* (Aimless Records)

➤ If you have inchoate anger that needs channeling into a smart-ass response, Todd Snider's your man. In a way, the financial crisis was built to order for this fun-loving provocateur. His witty 99% "party" line runs from the opening parable, "In the Beginning," which explains religion's

role in protecting the rich, through a Dylan-esque roots-rock story-song about lost pensions, "New York Banker," and the gut-bucket blues of "In Between Jobs." Snider's a canny lyricist, but he's also a versatile player whose tastes span Americana from acoustic to electric folk-rock. *Chris Parker*



### Spiritualized *Sweet Heart Sweet Light* (Fat Possum)

➤ Spiritualized's seventh album builds on their 2008 creative comeback, *Songs in A&E*. It's inspired by the experience of performing their 1997 masterpiece, *Ladies and Gentlemen We Are Floating in Space*, in its entirety during 2009, and it aspires to those heights once again.

Spiritualized's founder Jason Pierce spent two years making the album, including a whole year mixing it, and that loving obsession pays off in irrepressible hooks and songs that survey their entire spectrum of sound—from distortion-raining rave-ups to elegant hypnotic symphonies. *Chris Parker*

## FILM RECOMMENDATIONS



### Rockers: 25th Anniversary Edition Directed by Theodoros Bafaloukos (MDV)

➤ Though *The Harder They Come* might be more famous, *Rockers* is Jamaica's true cinematic masterpiece. Loosely based on Vittorio De Sica's *The Bicycle Thief*, it tells the story of a reggae drummer who buys a motorbike to start a record-distribution business, only to have it stolen. His

subsequent search takes him through Kingston's music underground, which was peaking at the time this film was made. With appearances by Gregory Isaacs, Burning Spear, Big Youth and the late, great Jacob Miller throwing down "Tenement Yard" for a bunch of tourists in a restaurant. *Chris Simunek*

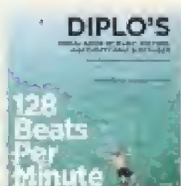
## BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



### The Someday Funnies Edited by Michel Choquette (Abrams Books)

➤ Back in the early '70s, then-*National Lampoon* contributor Michel Choquette planned an epic collection of comic strips that would capture the stoned and surreal zeitgeist of the era. He commissioned big-name friends like Federico Fellini, William Burroughs, Frank Zappa, Pete

Townshend, Tuli Kupferberg, Ralph Steadman and Art Spiegelman to write and/or draw. The talent came through, but the financing didn't—until now. The result is the perfect psychedelic coffee table book, designed to entertain tokers with a fractured history lesson of the '60s. *Michael Simmons*



### 128 Beats Per Minute By Diplo and Shane McCauley (Rizzoli Press)

➤ 21st-century global electronic dance music has by now become so hybridized with pop that practically no country in the world exists without a scene devoted to it. This has paid off huge for Wesley "Diplo" Pentz, who parlayed his gutter-beats Hollertronix parties in Philadelphia into

a globetrotting DJ/production career. *128 Beats Per Minute* presents itself as a Baedeker's guide to the international party scene, but ultimately it's an ego fest, chock-full of photos of fancy hotels, high-tech recording studios, secluded beaches and Diplo's super-hip pals. *Justin Hampton*

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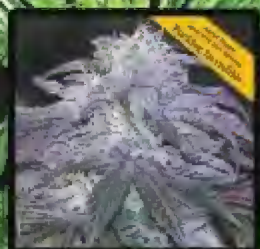
Burmese



Blackberry



Gold



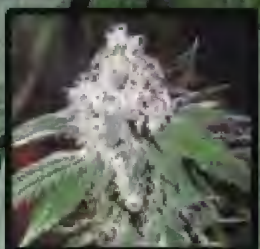
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Each week I force Danny Danko to put on a headset and drop cultivation knowledge into a microphone. These episodes are captured and posted online for your listening pleasure. I talk sometimes as well.

So far we've covered everything a beginning grower needs to get started—from germination to harvest—as well as tips and tricks more experienced cultivators might find useful. We've also had the opportunity to interview some friends who know a thing or two about growing pot (Jorge Cervantes, Kyle Kushman, Swerve from Cali Connection, Don from DNA, etc.). Each has shared some of their grow knowledge creating a cannabis cultivation community of sorts, the aim of which is to make you a self-sufficient gardener with an endless supply of free weed.

If you're more comfortable holding a bong than holding a hoe, the show's got something for you as well—from music to comedy to politics to drug testing tips. We also have stickers (inquire with Danko via twitter).

Don't miss our first-ever live show at the Denver Medical Cannabis Cup (April 21-22). We'll be out there without a net, serving up *Free Weed*.

—Mike Hughes, Producer, *Free Weed from Danny Danko*

### Activist Campus of the Month

Los Angeles has always been a hub for drug policy reform in California, and the University of Southern California chapter of SSDP proudly upholds that tradition. SSDP at USC became officially recognized in January, but they've already become active on statewide issues, including working hard to reform cannabis laws in the Golden State, campaigning to collect signatures for both the Regulate Marijuana Like Wine and Repeal Cannabis Prohibition Act. If you're a USC student, consider joining the fight today!

Learn more at [hightimes.com/tags/ssdp](http://hightimes.com/tags/ssdp)

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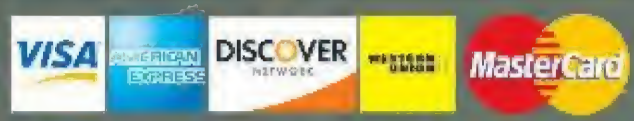
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MUNCHIES

## CHOCOLATE STONER STRAWBERRIES

A sweet new cannabis-infused tradition for hip summer weddings.

SINCE THE RECENT passing of my father, “Uncle D,” I’ve been finding ways of celebrating his life as often as possible. It was Dad, after all—along with my dear mother—who trained my green thumb and encouraged me to really live life.

Dad was a way-cool farmer, embedded deep in the agricultural community in our part of Oregon—and while he never did try marijuana himself, he was ready to sow fields of hemp if it had been made legal in his lifetime.

Like many traditional

romantic, sun-loving couples, Mom and Dad married in June, which inspired me to come up with a simple, refreshing treat to serve at hip summer weddings.

My parents spent the last 27 of their 43 years of marriage growing “end-user produce,” their first field crop being strawberries. Oregon strawberries are notoriously good, and those fields of bulging red bounty seemed to get sweeter each successive year.

So when I first sat down to write this column, those memories made me think of combining strawberries with chocolate.

Delicious, simple and a potentially gorgeous addition to any indoor or outdoor wedding reception, these treats can be easily personalized using drizzles of melted white chocolate dyed to match your wedding colors, and you can also roll them in your favorite chopped nuts or dust them with powdered sugar. Just remember to keep the medicated strawberry bites in a safe place for willing imbibers only and have plenty of THC-free chocolate-covered fruit in plain sight for little flower girls, ring bearers and “straight” relatives to enjoy.

Mary Ought Six

### STONER STRAWBERRIES

- 20 good-sized strawberries (about a pint and a half)
- 2 tbsp butter
- 1/8 oz ground marijuana
- 6 oz chocolate chips of your choice

Rinse the strawberries, pat them dry and set aside. Do not remove the hulls, but rather lovingly shape them to work as handles.

Next, ready a cookie sheet lined with wax paper. Melt the butter over low heat in a double-boiler, then stir in the ground-up pot. Keep the heat low, stirring occasionally for 30 minutes. Squeeze/strain the butter through cheesecloth and discard the greens. Then put the butter in the fridge to firm up a

bit while melting the chocolate.

Using the same double-boiler (add water to the lower pan if needed), melt the chocolate chips, stirring constantly until nearly smooth. Add the soft pot butter and continue stirring until everything is melted and integrated completely.

Next, pick up the individual strawberries by the hull and roll them in chocolate until well coated. Dip the fruit in chopped nuts if desired, then set them hull-side down on the wax paper and chill 30 minutes to overnight before serving. *Stones 10* (two strawberries per person—plus chocolaty bowl scrapings for the lucky chef).



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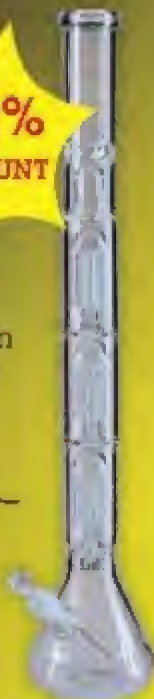
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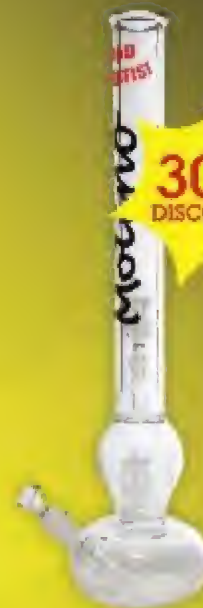
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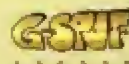
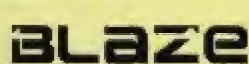
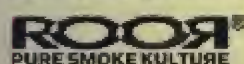
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### 2 Private Eye

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[dvrgear.com](http://dvrgear.com)

Whether you're a grower protecting a valuable crop or just a casual toker keeping an eye on your stash, being able to know that your private property is safe when you're not around is always a concern. That's why we love the variety of recording devices from **DVR Gear**, all hiding in plain sight inside key chains, clocks or car remotes. Check out these simple ways for keeping your garden secure—including an effective bug detector as well.

### 3 That Smell

Prices vary

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Marijuana aficionados already know that some odors need to be kept under wraps, and we've discovered a great product that actually removes them instead of just covering them up. **CH-2 Room Deodorizer** neutralizes odors quickly, without the use of harsh chemicals—in fact, it's nontoxic, biodegradable and safe around pets. Eliminate the smells of smoke or pungent pot quickly with these eco-friendly sprays in a variety of scents.

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**BLUE DREAM**  
 \$377

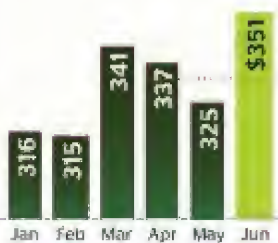
(Bubbleberry)  
"The scene here is alive and well. This college town has always had some righteous nuggage!"  
Morehead, KY

MARKET ANALYSIS

Prices by the ounce

While the Kind and Mids indices essentially held steady, the US Price Index finished June \$26 above its previous month's average (and \$20 above its year-to-date average). The US Price Index hit an eight-month high at \$351 an ounce—the index last finished above \$350 in October 2011.

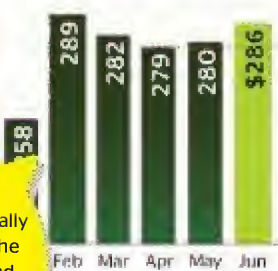
**US Price Index**  
YTD Average: \$331



**Kind Index**  
YTD Average: \$415



**Mids Index**  
YTD Average: \$279



**Schwag Index**  
YTD Average: \$102



(Crazy Train)  
"These buds are literally oozing with resin. The smell is pungent and distinct. Awesome pain relief."  
El Dorado, AR

TRANS HIGH MARKET QUOTATIONS

STATE	CITY	STRAIN	PRICE
Alabama	Montgomery	Grape Ape	\$250
Alaska	Fairbanks	Purple Kush Critical +	320 300
Arizona	Phoenix	Whiteberry Purple Kush	400 400
Arkansas	El Dorado	Crazy Train The Third Dimension	420 400
California	Los Angeles	OG Kush Bubbleband	425 450
	San Francisco	Granddaddy Purps	300
Colorado	Boulder Denver	Golden Goat Kosher Kush	325 350
Florida	Palm Beach	Blue Dream Headband Kush Whiteberry	300 400 280
Georgia	Griffin	Nirvana Swiss Cheese Diesel	350 300
Hawaii	Kauai	Sour Kush Chocolate Thai Cheesequake	460 200 600
Kentucky	Louisville Morehead	Sweet God Bubbleberry NL5 x Haze	500 345 380
Louisiana	New Orleans Shreveport	Cinderella 99 Kush	475 350
Maryland	Silver Spring	Blue Dream Sour Diesel	375 350
Michigan	Indian River Lansing	Diesel Agent Orange	475 300
Minnesota	Burnsville	Pineapple Kush	325
New Hampshire	Manchester	Sour Diesel Granddaddy Purple	350 350
New Jersey	Teaneck	OG Kush	450
New York	New York	Skywalker Strawberry Cough	400 450
North Carolina	Raleigh	Kush	350
Ohio	Cleveland	God Bud Strawberry Kush Master Kush	400 400 375
	Dayton	Kush	400
Oregon	Gresham	Super Lemon Haze Jack Frost	250 200
Tennessee	Nashville	White Widow Blueberry	650 300
Washington	Seattle	Cheese	300
INTERNATIONAL			
Canada	Calgary	Kush	C\$240
Scotland	Edinburgh	Cheese Purple Haze	£280 £280

We want to know what you're smoking! Submit your strain information, including location and price by the ounce, to [thmq@hightimes.com](mailto:thmq@hightimes.com).

(Super Lemon Haze)  
"Beautiful bright green buds! Extremely sticky and smells like Pine-Sol..."  
Gresham, OR

4G

08:20 am

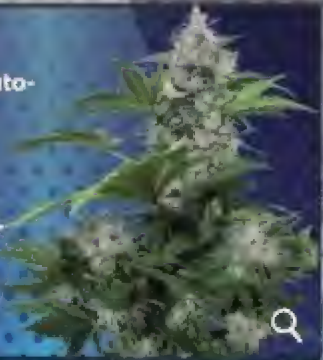
## WHITE DWARF

A classic among autoflowering strains.

100% Auto.

Harvest in 65 days.

5 Feminized Seeds  
40€



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NUEVA

Taste and fastness.

100% Purple.

100% Auto.

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35€



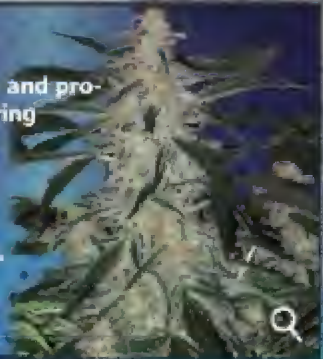
## DEIMOS

The most powerful and productive autoflowering variety.

100% Auto.

Harvest in 70 days.

5 Feminized Seeds  
40€



## QUASAR

A perfect balance between indica and sativa.

No autoflowering.

5 Feminized Seeds  
45€



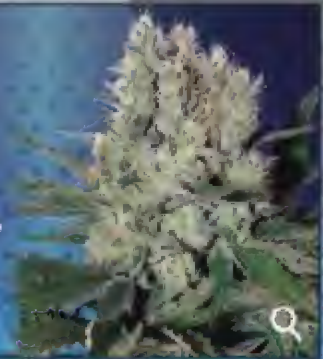
## SYRUP

Taste and power, idelicious!

100% Auto.

Harvest in 57 days.

5 Feminized Seeds  
35€



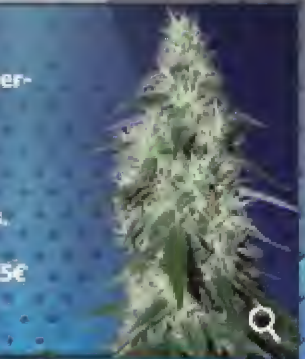
## PULSAR

Supersative and Super-productive.

No autoflowering.

Flowering in 75 days.

5 Feminized Seeds 45€



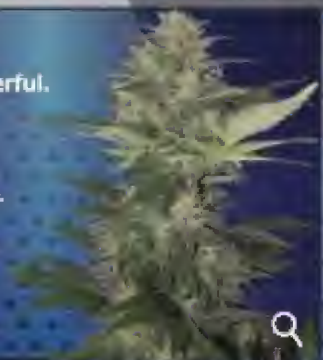
## RED DWARF

Compact and powerful.

100% Auto.

Harvest in 60 days.

5 Feminized Seeds  
30€



## ASSORTED AUTO

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100% Auto.

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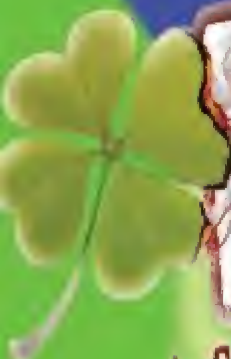
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# 21st Century Digital Grow

*Our Canadian cultivation correspondent discusses how to set up your very own fully automated, high-tech growroom of the future—starting today.*

*By Erik Biksa*





Sensors regulate dosages of nutrients and pH regulators.

### Advanced Auto-Growing

These days, it's possible to minimize the time spent in your grow-room, while simultaneously *maximizing* the yield of your buds, via automated growing (even the use of simple robotics). Of course, most people growing medicine indoors are likely using some level of automation already: for example, timers for lights and maybe even watering, or perhaps a thermostat that turns the exhaust fan on and off as necessary. Such simple, inexpensive and easy-to-obtain devices mean that you don't have to be physically present in the garden to handle these tasks—and since they've been widely embraced by indoor growers for some time now, this represents the entry level of automated growing.

Today, however, many more aspects of your indoor garden can be managed and operated from anywhere in the world if you have an Internet connection with a smartphone, Mac or PC. Here's a quick list of just some of the things in your grow-room that can not only be automated, but also controlled from afar:

- Lighting (photoperiod and even intensity)
- Cooling and heating
- Humidity
- Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) levels
- Reservoir levels
- Irrigation and feedings
- Nutrient injection
- pH control
- Foliar feeding
- Security and monitoring



Vertical lighting takes advantage of all available lumens.

### Computerize It

Even so, if you always had to be connected with your garden to know what was going on, you'd only be realizing a small part of the benefits that automation has to offer. That's why sophisticated systems can also alert the grower to any adverse changes or conditions in the garden via pre-set alarms. You can also have pan-and-tilt cameras connected that will allow you to take a virtual look around your growroom, or have a conversation with two-way microphones, or even record data and have the footage sent to you based on your user-set preferences.

Sound like a hefty technological endeavor? Not really. If you've ever set up a home or business computer network or connected your Xbox, PlayStation or Wii (etc.) online, you can pull this off! Obviously, technology like this doesn't come cheap, but considering the freedom and opportunities it can provide with one or several cultivation projects, the investment can easily be worth it for many

indoor growers. Plus a system covering all of the bases described here can be put together for less than a few thousand dollars (cameras and router *not* included).

Still not sure whether an automated grow is in your future? Then you might want to consider what it costs to buy a CO<sub>2</sub> monitor, pH monitor, PPM or TDS (total dissolved solids) monitor, water level monitor, temperature and humidity controls, light timers, alarms, cameras, etc.—all separately. And now consider that each of these devices won't be able to “talk” to the rest or to you; they're going to do their jobs separately, without regard to what else is going on in the garden or what the crop's overall needs dictate. If you add it all up, you might find that buying a plug-and-play automated-growing controller is both cost-effective and gives you plenty of potential advantages over more traditional (e.g., non-“smart”) controllers. And if you have a good understanding of exactly what you need and how it all fits together, you

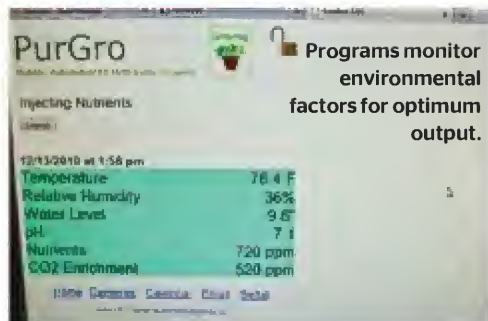


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A peek behind the curtain reveals the brains behind the operation.



Programs monitor environmental factors for optimum output.



The frosty results of a job well done.




## *This lucky crop has no struggles in life—and nothing to do but grow big and sticky.*

may be able to assemble your own system using regular home-style remotes—the kind they sell at building centers or online—to accomplish the level of automation you seek.

Here's a look at a few potential ways that you can put this kind of technology to work for you.

### **Crop Feeding**

 This is an area that's often a source of contention among growers, mainly because it's so crucial and generally requires a good deal of time (as well as visits to the grow space) to maintain at optimal levels. Even so, here are a couple of ways to automate it.

**Drain-to-waste:** This system operates either by a timer or manually (e.g., when

you decide it's time to feed by checking a camera or moisture sensor remotely) and uses either straight water (with adjustments for optimal pH) or a nutrient solution with supplements and beneficials added and delivered to your plants via the watering system.

**How it works:** An electronic solenoid opens the water flow or activates a pump. The water passes through a manifold with pH and TDS sensors. Micro-dosers adjust the pH and add nutrient components that are contained in stock tanks, injected at user-set ratios to achieve the target EC (electrical conductivity) and pH levels. The solution is then delivered by an emitter system to the plant containers, beds, etc.

**Recirculating system:** Here, the



These Tuna Kush plants exhibit lush growth.

reservoir operates completely automatically, which means that so long as the solution levels in the stock tanks are maintained and there's no interruption to the drainage or fill lines to and from the rez, the grower doesn't need to touch it—ever!

**How it works:** The nutrient solution is continually passed through a manifold with pH and EC sensors to monitor the condition of the solution. When the parameters fall out of range, micro-dose pumps add adjusters or nutrient components from the stock tanks into the solution. Additional pumps, solenoid gates and controllers can empty and refill the reservoir with fresh, purified RO (reverse osmosis) water, which can be added to the reservoir by dose pumps gradually or all at once—either by the push of a phone button or automatically.

Does this kind of automated-feeding system sound like science fiction? Not at

all—in fact, it's standard in either the GroBot or GroBot Evolution from *PurGro.com*. Just imagine the nutritional advantages that your ladies will enjoy by having access to the optimal balance of nutes and other beneficial supplements all of the time—and always at the correct pH. Coupled with automated environmental controls, this lucky crop has no struggles in life—and nothing to do but grow big and sticky.

### Environmental Control

These days, almost every indoor grow has cooling equipment that kicks into gear when the lights come on or there's a rise in temperature. And while ACs are great for serious ops, most growers still rely on fans to help keep temperatures optimal, remove excess humidity and maintain a flow of fresh air for plant growth.

In terms of automating your grow, you have two types of setup available.

**Basic:** A variable fan-speed controller, such as the TV (I & II) series from GroZone Controls, gives you a more fine-tuned approach to keeping the temperature right for plants to achieve their best growth, and it costs less than \$100.

**How it works:** Each model operates a bit differently, but the basic principle is the same: When the temperature rises past a certain point set by the grower, the fan turns on low. If that doesn't cool the space sufficiently, the fan speeds up—and if that still isn't cool enough, the fan speeds up even more. Once the temperature has been lowered, the fan either idles at a pre-set speed or shuts off entirely. The big advantages here are the constant airflow for fresher air and the prevention of any humidity-related problems, as well as a temperature that stays in the optimal range rather than jumping from too hot to too cold. Plus this type of system is inexpensive and works with almost any inline fan.

**Sophisticated:** Integration is key here. Controls that lower or raise the temperature and humidity level, or that monitor and disperse CO<sub>2</sub>, are nothing new—but ones that work in harmony with your other controls, alert you to adverse conditions or allow changes to the settings via a computer network certainly are.

**How it works:** When the grow lights switch on, the temperature control adjusts to one that's optimal for “daylight” (versus the dark cycle). Carbon dioxide isn't added until the plants have some time to wake up (as opposed to the instant that the lights come on). Once the cooling fans kick in, CO<sub>2</sub> is no longer released, since it would simply be wasted by getting sucked out through the exhaust—but as soon as the fans cycle off, the CO<sub>2</sub> is added again. In the event that the temps can't be maintained near optimal levels and continue to climb, a high-temperature sensor shuts off the lights to prevent plant stress or even total crop loss. And, once again, any and all of this can be monitored, adjusted or changed from anywhere in the world, with an alert sent automatically if the temperature falls out of the optimal range, since this is typically a sign of trouble.



Fans circulate fresh air to all corners of the growing space.

### Lighting Control

Unless you're running a 24/7 perpetual vegetative stage room, the lights will have to switch on and off at regular times to control what phase of growth the plants are in. You will likely also need to adjust the intensity of the lighting—for example, less light for young transplants versus as much as the plants can handle during their peak bud phase.

Your options here are the same as for environmental control:

**Basic:** To control the photoperiod, a timer is used. Ideally, this operates from a 110-volt source for a higher degree of safety (even if your lighting is 220 volts, since you're likely to touch the timer every now and then). Your lighting is also hooked up to a high-temperature shut-down switch, which means that if the

cooling gear fails, the lights switch off until the normal operating temps can be established. To regulate the intensity, you might do better than raising and lowering the lights manually by using a manual dimmer-switch selector on your ballast.

**How it works:** It's pretty basic—the lights go on and off per the timer's setting, and they'll also shut off if the room gets too hot for whatever reason. To fine-tune their intensity, you simply manually select for 50%, 75% or 100% of output on your lighting ballasts.

**Sophisticated:** Electronic ballasts are integrated via the network directly into the environmental controls, thereby allowing for intelligent changes to light intensity based on temperature or presets from the grower for the growth phase being met.



A wall of ballasts powers the high-intensity discharge lighting.

## AUTOMATION ESSENTIALS

### A Quick Checklist

The items are listed here in the order you'll need them to get the job done.

#### High-Speed Router

Look for reliability and security—you go wireless, range is important, too. If you're away from your grow and want to monitor and control it, the door will be locked if your router fails (and if your router isn't secure, that door will be unlocked and open to others). Typically, you'll also need a computer as part of your automated setup.



#### CCTV Camera System

Your local home-building center or even places like Costco carry good CCTV (closed-circuit television) camera systems at reasonable prices. Expect to pay in the neighborhood of \$500 minimum in North America, and go for hard-wired systems (not wireless). You can add additional cameras, including network cameras. Make sure the device is reliable and allows you secure remote viewing in addition to recording.



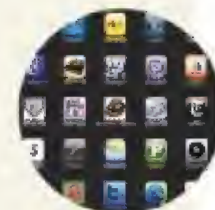
#### Software and Controllers

Whether you buy a plug-and-play system or build your own, you'll need a controller that offers software to link to your computer via a router or even directly. You can buy inexpensive home-automation controls over the Web, and these can be plugged in and used for anything that switches on or off. However, while units built expressly for growing may cost you more, they'll also give you a much higher level of control with fewer headaches.



#### Apps

Some of your gear will come with software for your computer, but to use your smartphone, you'll usually need to download and install an app. Most of these apps are free with your gear purchase, but there are also some great third-party or "after-market" apps that can step up your level of automation or improve reliability.



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Heavy-duty light timers are necessary for success every time.

**How it works:** When the light cycle begins, the intensity is gradually ramped up over an hour (or even several), and as the cycle ends, the light intensity is gradually reduced. This combination mimics the sunrise and sunset (and who doesn't like a gradual wake-up?). If the temps increase beyond what the cooling fans or other equipment can handle, the networked digital ballasts receive a command to diminish light intensity until the pre-set temperature is met. If it can't be met, this means that something major is wrong, and the lights shut down as a result.

### Networking Advantages

Today, thanks to the current technology, the possibilities when it comes to automated cannabis growing are limited only by your imagination (and, of course, your budget). One of the advantages to a DIY approach is that you can put it together a little bit at a time. But when you consider that whatever you *don't* have automated is going to keep you coming back to the garden anyway, it also makes sense to go the whole nine yards in one shot.

Automating and networking a medical cannabis cultivation site can also add a degree of safety, both for the operator (and his or her building) and the surrounding community. For example, camera systems with remote viewing can help to serve as a deterrent to thieves and aid in gathering positive proof



Take a peek into this pot production powerhouse.

*These days anyone can reap bigger yields of higher-quality buds with less work through automated growing.*

regarding anyone who is targeting legal medical grows. The operator can also check out a garden remotely after receiving an alert that things aren't working right, which could be a warning sign of a much bigger problem, perhaps of an electrical nature.

Having pan-and-tilt cams with two-way mics, while obviously never as good as actually being there yourself, is certainly the next best thing. You can check on the health of your plants, see if you need to hit the "water" button or, best

of all, even walk a less-skilled onsite worker through the particular task or job required.

As you can see, the path to growing bigger and stickier medical buds is getting a little bit easier every day thanks to new advances in technology—and the savvy growers who learn to adopt them. These days, however, anyone can reap bigger yields of higher-quality buds with less work through automated growing. The future, in short, is already here—and it's just a click away. 🌱

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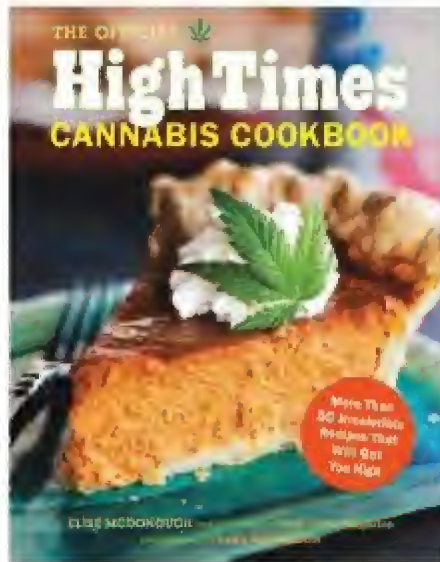
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# CANNABIS KITCHEN

*Recently, the archetype of “stoner chef” has gained traction in pop culture, and when you watch these cannabis-friendly cooks ply their trade, it becomes pretty obvious that they find their inspiration by taking breaks from the heat in the kitchen to go outside and spark up a jay. And why not? Cannabis is a sensual enhancer that fits seamlessly into the foodie lifestyle, heightening the entire experience, from selecting produce to cooking, plating and eating (and maybe even washing the dishes).*

**An exclusive excerpt from *The Official High Times Cannabis Cookbook*  
By Elise McDonough & the editors of HIGH TIMES**



Turn the page for the  
recipe for these Stuffed  
Stoned Jalapeño  
Poppers.





## Stuffed Stoned Jalapeño Poppers

These stoner treats were born when a particularly robust jalapeño pepper plant grown on my New York City rooftop burst forth with a bounty of 20 peppers. While partaking of a nice joint and relaxing on the same rooftop, inspiration struck: peppers, peanut butter and pot! The peanut butter tempers the heat of the peppers, and the herb gets you high—what more can you ask for from something this easy to make? So amuse your bouche and try these one-bite wonders!

10 jalapeño peppers  
 2 tablespoons THC oil  
 ¼ cup green onions, white parts only, chopped  
 2 cloves garlic, minced  
 ¾ cup peanut butter

Preheat the oven to 350°F.

Cut off the tops of the jalapeños and reserve them. Use a small knife to remove as much of the pith and seeds as possible. You want hollow peppers that can hold the stuffing. Rinsing out the inside of the pepper with water is a good way to remove the seeds.

Warm a small saucepan over medium heat and add the THC oil. Let the oil warm for about 30 seconds, then add the green onions and cook for 1 minute. Then add the garlic and sauté for 1 to 2 minutes. Add the peanut butter and stir, adding 2 to 3 tablespoons of water as needed to thin the consistency. The sauce should be easy to stir. Remove from heat.

Use a spoon, piping bag or a small funnel to fill the jalapeños with the peanut butter sauce. Fit the pepper tops back on and secure with a toothpick. (Soak your toothpicks in water first.)

Place peppers on a foil-lined baking sheet and bake for 20 minutes. Serve warm.

Note: You may want gloves to handle the peppers, but if you don't wear gloves, be careful not to touch your eyes after handling the peppers. Wash your hands and the cutting board immediately and thoroughly after handling peppers. *Stones 10*

Watch us make this recipe!  
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**B**ut what is stoner cuisine? The mainstream media would jeer that it's nonstop gorging on low-quality snack foods like cheesy poofs, potato chips and candy bars, but in reality these stoner chefs most often express themselves by reimagining traditional foods and fusing formerly foreign flavors together in new, fun ways. Sometimes stoner cuisine is simply stuff you eat only when you're stoned (grilled Nutella and banana panini), but at the highest level, it's really about the recipes that are created while stoned, including unusual food combinations that sound strange at first but then turn out to be wonderful.

In *The Official HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cookbook*, we've attempted to present all facets of this new "stoner-style cuisine," a lifestyle that balances healthy choices like raw juice and meatless meals with occasional decadence in the form of melted cheese and rich desserts.

### Basic Psychoactive Infusions

The primary psychoactive components of cannabis are fat-soluble, meaning the molecules that produce highness bind onto any sort of lipid, including whole milk, butter, cream or coconut, olive, or

vegetable oil. In these "phatty" forms, THC and other cannabinoids can most easily absorb into the bloodstream, thus providing you with the strongest possible psychoactive effect from your stash. It also means you should never, ever, simply add your precious cannabis directly into some brownie mix and call it a day. Without binding the THC to a fat molecule in a compound like cannabutter, most of the effect will be lost, leading to wasted time, wasted herb and bunk brownies.

The key chemical reaction involved in doing it right takes place when cannabis is combined with your chosen fat and heated at a low temperature (122°F–145°F) for no less than twenty minutes, and ideally up to an hour or more, stirring often. Long-held hippie wisdom dictates simmering the butter or oil for up to eight hours, but this is difficult to accomplish without a Crock-Pot. Anyway, after sixty minutes you can rest assured that most of the THC molecules will have left the plant matter and migrated to the butter or oil. The process is called "decarboxylation," which describes a chemical reaction that converts non-psychoactive THC acid found

in the raw plant into psychoactive THC. Cooking cannabis over high heat for too long will degrade the THC, hurting potency, which makes using a double boiler or Crock-Pot vital.

After you've infused your butter or oil, strain it carefully to discard all the cannabis fiber and particulate matter—it's no good for anything but compost. Cannabis fiber in the form of fresh raw leaf or crispy cooked leaf will irritate sensitive stomachs and may be difficult to digest due to microscopic hairs on the surface of the leaf called cystoliths.

### What to Expect

The biggest difference between eating pot and smoking it is the intensity and type of high that results. Eating cannabis brings on a more physical sensation, or "body high," which soothes sore muscles, eases pain, aids relaxation and fights insomnia, while providing feelings of warmth and pleasant tingling. Edibles can also produce a powerfully psychedelic euphoria, which can last much longer than the typical high from smoking.

Always keep in mind that everyone's tolerance is different, and individuals respond to ingesting cannabis in different



Pair this Cheeto Fried Chicken with some Four Loko.

ways. Usually, you will not feel any results immediately after eating cannabis, since it needs to be digested to take effect, a process that can take anywhere from 30 minutes to two hours depending on how much you ingest, and whether it's on a full or empty stomach. So start with a small serving and do not eat any more pot food for at least an hour after the first serving.

Those who've eaten too much cannabis may feel panicky, anxious, agoraphobic, uncoordinated or on the verge of a total "freak-out." Fear of "losing it entirely" has also been reported. Should this happen to you, retreat to a safe place to lie down, dim the lights, breathe deeply, drink

plenty of fluids, eat non-pot food, and distract yourself by listening to your favorite music or watching a movie you like. Most probably, you'll end up napping, and in a few hours all the uncomfortable feelings will have subsided.

Keep in mind that it is humanly impossible to fatally overdose on cannabis, even if you've just eaten an entire birthday cake frosted with cannabis buttercream. It's estimated that the amount of THC required to cause a fatal overdose would be four million milligrams, or about nine pounds of pure hashish—and you definitely didn't eat nearly that much, or you wouldn't be able to read this sentence. ✨

## Cheeto Fried Chicken

(Recipe from Eddie Huang)

We got this far-out recipe from notorious Lower East Side chef Eddie Huang. A friend of HIGH TIMES, Huang is legendary for his bad-boy chef antics, which include allegedly hot-boxing his Taiwanese bun shop BaoHaus after partying late one night, and serving the banned caffeinated malt liquor Four Loko at his restaurant Xiao Ye. When asked by the *New York Observer* why Xiao Ye was the only bar in New York selling Four Loko, Huang answered, "We're dedicated to getting people wasted for cheap." The riotous all-you-can-drink Four Loko parties ultimately led to several raids on Huang's joint, which closed in late 2010 after being hit with hefty fines. You can still visit BaoHaus in the Lower East Side, but don't ask when the next hot-box session will happen. We're hoping Eddie kicked the Four Loko in favor of the green herb that inspired this stonerific recipe!

5 pounds boneless, skinless chicken thighs or breasts

1½ quarts buttermilk

6 tablespoons kosher salt

¼ cup chili powder

3½ tablespoons garlic powder

1 egg, lightly beaten

2 tablespoons cornstarch

3 six-ounce bags Cheetos Crunchy

8 cups THC oil (for frying the cut chicken into 4-ounce pieces)

Using a mallet, flatten the pieces into cutlets without breaking the flesh. Set aside.

In a large bowl, mix the buttermilk, kosher salt, chili powder and garlic powder. Add chicken and marinate in the refrigerator for at least 5 hours.

Remove the chicken and transfer to another large bowl. To this bowl, add the beaten egg and cornstarch. Use your hands to coat the chicken well. Set aside.

Now, take the Cheetos and crush them until there are no lumps. Do this by opening the bag, letting out the air and then pounding the Cheetos with a mallet until they are finely textured crumbs.

Transfer the Cheetos to a pan and roll the individual chicken cutlets in them until well coated.

Fry the coated chicken in THC oil at 335°F for 5 to 6 minutes until golden brown and cooked through. Drain the chicken on paper towels and serve warm.

**Stones 8**



## Bonghitters' Mota Mojito

Masters of the "infield high rule," the legendary HIGH TIMES Bonghitters softball team takes the fields of New York's Central Park as the token terrors of the citywide publishing league. Annually pitted against media powerhouses like *Playboy*, *Rolling Stone*, *The Onion*, and the *New Yorker*, our beloved Bonghitters rely on their trademark "rally joints" to inspire the team to new heights of hitting and fielding, while intimidating opponents into making errors whenever the sweet smell of natural grass wafts over from the dugout.

As far as the post-game celebration goes, the Bonghitters have adopted the mojito as their signature libation, specifically those prepared by Central Park's legendary "Mojito Man," who makes the rounds on bicycle, dispensing cold beverages to everyone chilling in the park. A HIGH TIMES fan for sure, the Mojito Man surprised the Bonghitters with this special, cannabis-infused Mota-jito drink to celebrate a big victory over archival the *Wall Street Journal* and even shared the recipe so you can celebrate at home!

A fun twist on an old classic, add

some mota to your mojitos! The buzz is sublime, and the sugar and lime compliment the cannabis flavor nicely. Some people heat the alcohol or let the ganja steep for at least three weeks, but even the lowest heat burns off alcohol quickly, and letting any herb steep too long results in bitterness.

- 375 milliliters cannabis-infused rum
- 4 tablespoons sugar
- Juice of 4 key limes
- Half-liter soda water
- 8 sprigs of mint
- Crushed ice
- Small cannabis fan leaves, for garnish (optional)

In a blender, combine the rum, sugar and lime juice and blend on low for 30 seconds. Add soda water and stir.

Prepare four 13-ounce glasses by muddling 2 sprigs of mint in the bottom of each glass, crushing and mashing them thoroughly. Fill each glass halfway with crushed ice.

Pour the contents of the blender over the ice to fill each glass. Garnish with a pot leaf, if desired. Salud! *Stones 4*



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# The Buds of Basque Country

*In the so-called “NorCal of Europe,” experienced seed breeders are developing and growing out autoflowering feminized cannabis genetics that have changed the cultivation landscape for pot farmers around the world.*

*Story and photos by Danny Danko*



Massive greenhouses let the sun shine in and keep out the rain.

### Strains of Spain

Along the north coast of Spain sits a restive yet beautiful region known as the Comunidad Autónoma del País Vasco (the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country), a place with a language and culture older than—and quite separate from—its neighbors in Spain and France.

With a rich history of resistance to authority from outside the region, the Basque people celebrate their uniqueness by continuing the traditions of their fiercely independent ancestors. Delicious food, fine wines and the tangy cider made from local apples are all celebrated lustily by the locals, who (I soon learned) also know a thing or two about cannabis cultivation and seed breeding.

Here in this rugged mountain terrain, my guide introduces me to the head breeder of Dinafem Seeds, a 2011 inductee into our HIGH TIMES Seed Bank Hall of Fame and a perennial Top 10 Strain of the Year winner in the pages of the magazine. After years at the forefront of seed production, Dinafem has developed into a veritable bud-breeding dynasty: Strains such as Critical +, Moby Dick and Haze Automatic are legendary among growers far and wide, and Dinafem's innovative breeding practices use sound science to create the buds of the future. The company's work now focuses on the production of stable feminized and autoflowering strains from seed for cultivators looking for easy-to-grow varieties.



These colas sag from the weight of the buds.



Autoflowering plants stay short and stout.



Plucking some lower fan leaves increases growth up top.

*The fact remains that regardless of how cannabis purists may feel about feminized and/or autoflowering strains, wthey're here to stay.*

### Feminized and Autoflowering Seeds

Regular cannabis seeds will produce about 50/50 ratio of male to female plants. The males are useless except for breeding, and growing one out accidentally in a garden full of females will result in a seeded crop; the female plants put all their energy into forming seeds instead of swelling their buds. These undesirable results can be avoided either by culling the garden of males before they're able to release their pollen, or by growing out feminized seeds.

"Feminized" refers to seeds that are selectively bred to guarantee growing out 100% female plants, and "autoflowering" means that the plants will begin to flower at a certain age regardless of the photoperiod. Pot breeders can now manipulate their plants to produce these kinds of seeds for the marketplace. The benefits

and drawbacks of this type of genetic engineering will be debated forever, but the fact remains that regardless of how cannabis purists may feel about feminized and/or autoflowering strains, they're here to stay—in fact, get used to a future where they're the *norm*. And for obvious reasons: Growers using these genes simply plant their seeds, walk away and then return in 80 days to harvest. No muss, no fuss, no molds, no busts—harvest early using these seeds and you defeat thieves, pests, police and botrytis all at once.

It's true that the cannabis gene pool needs diversity, and growing from real male and female seeds is the best way to discover new and interesting marijuana varieties. But these seeds are best for breeding purposes and for raising mother plants—not for growers who want to plant beans that they know will grow into female plants and finish

quickly. Growers in high altitudes or northern latitudes need strains that can handle the rugged weather and short growing season, and feminized autoflowering plants surely fill that bill.

The effect of autoflowerings is more mellow, sedative and appropriate for relaxation, because they have a higher CBD and lower THC level than normal strains. Therefore, the autos are very well suited for consumers with very low tolerance levels, for people who are going to use the medicine for the first time or your grandma because she's scared of cannabis—and this one is going to make her feel mellow, but not superhigh—and are good for conditions related to the nervous system, like seizures.

Indeed, the new autos are becoming increasingly potent, tasty and productive, so they are more and more a good choice also for commercial growers. In places like Spain, Russia, Italy and Ukraine, there are fields of 60,000 autoflowering plants for commercial purposes.

### ***Cannabis ruderalis***

In addition to the well-known strain types *Cannabis sativa* and *Cannabis indica*, there is also *Cannabis ruderalis*, a lesser-known species found in Russia and other parts of Eastern Europe. These



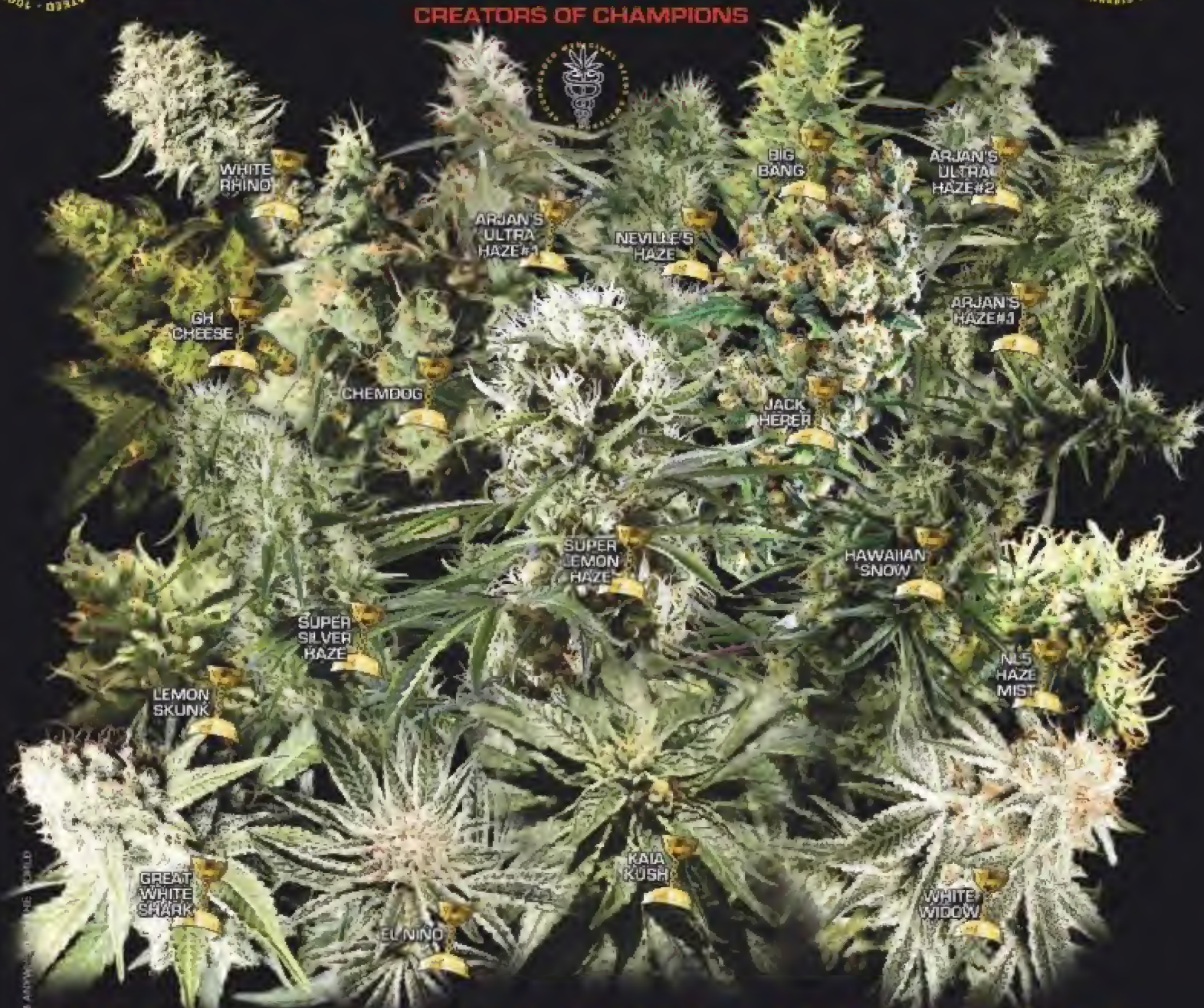
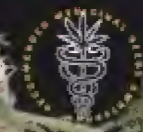


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low-THC strains are acclimated to harsh conditions and managed to develop, over time, the ability to begin their flowering cycle even under almost 24 hours of full sun per day. It's believed these *ruderalis* plants are the result of domestic hemp crops that scattered their seeds in the wild and spread throughout the tundra.

Early experiments with breeding *ruderalis* resulted in less potent pot, but now, using sounder techniques and stronger parent stock, their THC levels have been enhanced, as have the all-essential fla-

vors and aromas. This new generation of autoflowering seed stock has been a god-send to growers in northern latitudes and high altitudes, as well as a boon to lazy growers without much time or inclination to tend to their crops.

*Ruderalis* genes also provide the genetic benefit of greater resistance to pests and molds. Anyone who has fought through a spider mite infestation or an outbreak of powdery mildew can understand the significance and economic interest in these "watered-down" beans. Some are willing to sacrifice potency for guaranteed larger yields, while others simply don't want to suffer through another disappointing year outdoors.

### How It's Done

When feminizing seeds, the "males" are actually genetic females treated with silver thiosulfate (STS) to stress them into inducing male flowers. Pollen extracted from these "males" will produce female seeds when sprinkled onto the right flowering female plant. At harvest time,

*You can see that it's not simply a matter of crossing one line of plants with another.*



Harvested branches hang on a string to dry before the curing process.



Female plants forced to grow "male" flowers.



200,000 White Widow seeds ready for a rigorous inspection before packaging.

the breeder shakes out and sifts the buds for these seeds and plants them in order to choose the best resulting plants for future breeding.

For autoflowering strains, the breeders of Dinafem prefer originals such as the Joint Doctor's Lowryder 2 and Diesel Ryder. They make their selections of breeding material from large populations, planting three per pot (more than 650 for each seedling), then culling those down

first to 150 and then to just the few strongest ones with the sought-after desirable traits. Autoflowering is a recessive trait, so it won't be present in the first cross at all.

Here, Dinafem's head breeder explains the process of crossing and selection involved in creating a stable autoflowering seed stock:

Example, Haze Auto x White Widow (regular) is an f0 x f0 (regular) resulting in an f1 generation of seeds that isn't



### Tissue Culture

**Dinafem Seeds** are also at the forefront of developing tissue-culture techniques to preserve and improve overall cannabis genetics. This "in vitro" form of asexual, meristematic cloning using agar as a medium for somatic embryogenesis will allow for the mass production of one phenotype with less than one percent variation. Or, in simpler terms, if they find a particular marijuana variety that's resistant to the local fungi (in this case, fusarium), a tiny leaf sample can eventually produce large quantities of specimens with those desirable traits. By using a starting material that's free of pathogens, the resulting "offspring" will show molecular markers for that same resistance to damaging fungi.

Another benefit of tissue culture is that it allows strains to be kept indefinitely, thus ensuring that no particular cannabis variety will ever become lost to us. Sadly, this has happened with more than one precious genetic treasure that we'll never have the pleasure of smoking again. Cataloging and stockpiling this valuable material is vital to the preservation of pot strains and the diversity of the plant for the future.

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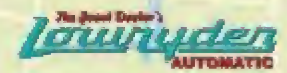
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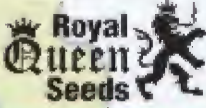
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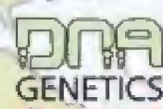
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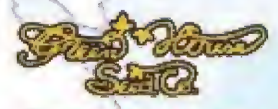
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These monster bushes grow in a well-maintained cultivation facility.

## Greenhouse Tour

As we tour the farms along the winding roads through this mountainous area, I can't help but be reminded of the Emerald Triangle of Northern California. Just as in Humboldt, Trinity and Mendocino counties, the cannabis cultivators here grow big plants, outdoors or in greenhouses, and almost exclusively organic.

Clones are virtually unheard of here, and almost all of the pot growers in Spain—and, indeed, throughout Europe—rely heavily on feminized and autoflowering seeds. But autoflowering plants are all very heavy feeders, so they have to give them plenty of nitrogen-dominant nutes early on and then switch to a phosphorous- and potassium-laden feeding regimen when they see the flowers beginning to form.

Fall in the Basque Country, as in NorCal, brings with it moisture that can wreak havoc on forming colas. Powdery mildew and molds such as pythium and botrytis

attack buds quickly—and once they do, it's only a matter of time (and not much of it) before whole plants are rotting on the vine. One of the benefits of early-finishing plants like autoflowering strains is to avoid this perilous period altogether, but even they can be affected if care isn't taken to protect them.

Any rain or morning dew must be shaken off to avoid pockets of moisture that encourage harmful bacterial growth. Keeping a heater in the greenhouse and opening vents at both ends will also drop humidity levels significantly during this important time. ✨

Check out [dinafem.org](http://dinafem.org) for more information.

*Keeping a heater in the greenhouse and opening vents at both ends will drop humidity levels.*

autoflowering. In the f2 generation, only 20 to 30 percent of the offspring will be autoflowering. With proper breeding practices,

the f3 will be at about 60 percent auto and the f4 should be almost all that way. Then the f4 chosen champions must be feminized and backcrossed. It's a painstaking process, but only in this way can the quality of the final product be maintained.



Critical + fills out chunky, and very quickly.

## Cannabis Social Clubs (CSC)

I had the honor of meeting longtime marijuana activist Martin Barriuso, who formed the first "association" in the Basque Country. Some even refer to him as the "Mahatma Ganja" of the region: His mission is to spread the private-club model internationally using a non-profit opt-in scenario in which willing participants pool their resources and gardens to create a cannabis community free of questionable



Martin in the garden of his private cannabis club.

black-market influences.

As I toured his wonderful facility, Martin filled me in on the real situation for growers and smokers from Bilbao to San Sebastian: "Here,

we are caught between police and thieves," he said. "We're somewhat tolerated, but not protected. The War on Drugs is very unpopular here. Everyone knows it's a failure. We believe in self-production for quality control. We even invited the police and press to visit our garden and our club!"

Martin inspired me to help spread the message of these wonderful clubs. I met several patrons who told me that the clubs changed their lives for the

better and provided a safe place for them to indulge in cannabis with like-minded individuals. They get together to share their bounty of buds, along with homegrown fruits and vegetables and plenty of jamon Serrano or Iberico (cured ham legs), as well as fresh-baked bread. The associations also help keep marijuana out of the hands of minors using a members-only model.

Learn more about private cannabis clubs at [tni.org](http://tni.org) and [encod.org](http://encod.org).



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# BREW IT YOURSELF

Compost tea provides a 100 percent organic fertilizer-and-pesticide combo capable of feeding your plants exactly what they need while keeping pests and diseases at bay—all at a fraction of the cost of conventional products.

*By David Bienenstock*

*Photos by Murphy Green*

**W**hen you're growing ganja way off the grid, it's vitally important to become as self-reliant as possible. At this lovely medical marijuana garden in Northern California, that means not just cultivating your own medicine, but also growing your own food, brewing your own beer, sewing your own socks, pickling your own vegetables, playing music on a guitar instead of an iPod, and learning a million other frontier skills that quickly become crucial when you're way up in the mountains, more than an hour from the nearest small town.

For the record, these modern-day homesteaders grow amazing marijuana and brew only so-so beer. Of course, that may be because the “homebrew” they're most proud of is meant for the garden, not the gardeners.

“Compost tea is the foundation upon which the entire success of our farm depends,” says Spore, the head gardener and plant manager of this operation. “We use it to create an ideal soil for growing ganja, to provide our plants with the nutrients they need, to protect them from insects, molds, diseases ... I can't tell you the number of different products compost tea can replace, for a lot less money.”

Compost tea starts, obviously enough, with compost, a mix of decaying organic matter that farmers of all kinds have used



**This medical cannabis garden benefits from the all-natural nutrients and nonstop pest control provided by billions of beneficial microorganisms living in the soil.**

since the dawn of agriculture to enrich their soils. Organic compost can be inexpensively obtained from your local garden store and mixed directly into your existing soil—or, better yet, you can build and maintain your own compost pile as an easy and cost-effective way to supply your plants with the nutrients they need to thrive throughout the growing season.

One important thing to be aware of, however, is that there's a world of difference between a compost pile and a garbage heap. So while it's not that hard to make garden-ready compost, you do have to follow this basic recipe diligently or you'll end up with a stinky, useless mess.

Start with a mix that's 25% high-nitrogen ingredients (such as manure, legumes and grass clippings from early spring), 45% green ingredients (like

green plant debris, food scraps and coffee grounds), and 30% woody material (like dried leaves, wood chips and shredded newspaper). You'll need to create a compost pile with a mass of at least one cubic yard of this combined material to ensure that, as it decomposes, the pile reaches a temperature above 135°F and stays there for three days—long enough to kill off weed seeds, pathogens and cannabis-eating nematodes.

Measure the pile with a long-stemmed thermometer that can reach its center in order to verify the temps. When the temperature reaches about 155°F, turn the pile over with a pitchfork so that the cooler outside material is now on the inside and has a chance to get hotter in its turn. Keep in mind, however, that the inside of the pile must always remain



below 160°F, since that's the point at which the beneficial microorganisms within the compost will start being killed off.

For the first week or so, expect to turn the pile every day or two, then much less frequently after that. In a few weeks, the temperature will gradually start to drop—a sign that the compost is maturing. About two months after you've started, the center of the pile should be cool or barely warm to the touch, which means that it's ready to add to the garden.

"Proper compost has an amazing aroma," Spore reports. "It might be an acquired taste, but it's certainly not overtly unpleasant in any way—unless you fucked it up."

So that takes care of the compost. But if compost is so great on its own, why bother brewing compost tea?

Primarily because that's the most efficient way to get all of the beneficial microorganisms living in the compost to your plants in a form they can readily absorb, while also speeding up the breakdown of any toxins in the surrounding soil. Compost tea supports plant growth in two key ways: First, it helps to build a "soil food web" by introducing billions of beneficial microorganisms and nutrients into the soil in a way that makes them readily accessible to plant roots. Second, at the root level and especially when used as a foliar spray, these same beneficial microorganisms protect the plant from pathogens, molds, insects and other buzz killers.

In Spore's garden, with its dozens of large outdoor plants, the head gardener has several compost piles going at any



## COMPOST TEA INSTRUCTIONS

### REQUIRED MATERIALS

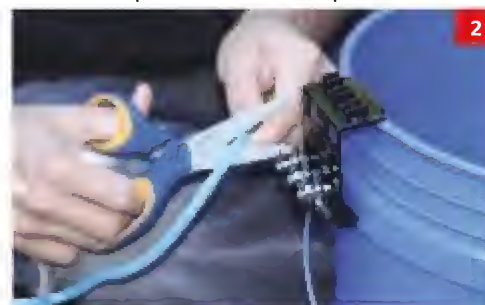
- An aquarium pump (with at least three bubblers or air stones)
- Several feet of tubing
- A gang valve
- Unsulfured organic molasses
- An old pillowcase (to strain the tea)
- Two 5-gallon plastic buckets
- Compost (from a homemade pile or store-bought)

**NOTE:** If your water comes from a city source, you should start by filling one of the buckets and running the bubblers in it for about an hour to remove any chlorine, which can kill the beneficial organisms in your tea. Well water can be used straight from the spigot.



### BREWING

(1) Fill one of the buckets halfway with fully mature compost—but don't compact it.



(2) Cut a length of tubing and attach one end to the gang valve and the other to the pump.

one time, which he uses to brew up large batches of compost tea at key points in the growing season. To handle his needs, Spore has also acquired a relatively simple pre-made compost brewer capable of producing 50 gallons of the tea at once, which is then delivered by hose to the garden, where aerating wands allow the growers to apply it both to the plants' roots and to the leaves as a foliar spray.

Over time, Spore has developed his own special recipes for the vegetative and flowering stages that incorporate locally sourced organic amendments. "Aside from the benefit to plants, compost tea is also by far the most environmentally friendly way to grow cannabis," he explains. "Tea-treated plants don't need chemical nutrients and pesticides, they require less water overall via increased retention, and they don't require shipping in tons of soil and amendments from distant, ecologically sensitive lands. And, oh yeah—the buds smell and taste fantastic!"

Naturally, not everyone has quite as many plants to tend as Spore does, so over a few glasses of homebrewed beer, we decided that it would be most helpful to HIGH TIMES readers if we provided a set of instructions for constructing a simple, inexpensive compost-tea brewer



(3) Cut three more pieces, each long enough to reach from the rim of the bucket to its bottom, and attach those to a port of the gang valve on one end and a bubbler on the other.



(4) Bury the bubblers beneath the compost and hang the gang valve from the top lip of the bucket.



(5) Fill the bucket with water, leaving three inches of air at the top, and then start the pump. (6) As the bubblers run, add one ounce of molasses, then stir vigorously with a stick or broom handle that reaches to the bottom of the bucket.

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that anyone can build at home using an aquarium pump and a few other basic items from the hardware store.

This simple bucket system is based on instructions from Elaine Ingham, a recognized leader in the field of microbiology and the author of *The Compost Tea Brewing Manual*. So start small, witness the amazing power of compost tea firsthand, and you'll soon become a convert.

**BENEFITS**

Compost tea is 100 percent organic and has been shown to:

- Suppress pythium, phytophthora, powdery mildew, fusarium and other plant pathogens.
- Reduce or eliminate the need for chemical pesticides and fertilizers.
- Increase retention rates for water and nutrients.
- Break down toxins in the soil, helping root systems to thrive.
- Save growers a lot of money while boosting both the health and yields of their plants.



(7) Once the molasses (which serves as food for the tea's beneficial microorganisms) is dissolved, check to see that the bubblers have remained on the bottom of the bucket and are still well spaced. Repeat this stirring process several times a day for three days straight to achieve fully brewed tea.

After three days of constant brewing, remove all of the equipment from the bucket and let the

tea sit 10 to 20 minutes to allow the compost to settle to the bottom. Empty the contents into the other bucket using the pillowcase to strain out any solid compost. You should yield about 2.5 gallons of usable tea, while the strained-out solid matter can either be returned to your compost pile or added directly to the soil.

At this point, you can also add any foliar micronutrients to the tea (such as rock dust and kelp) that you think will benefit your plants.

**APPLICATION**

Since compost tea works by bringing beneficial living organisms to your plants, it must be applied to the soil or used as a foliar spray immediately after you finish brewing. Compost tea is best applied in the early-morning or early-evening hours, so plan accordingly before you start brewing.

As a foliar spray, compost tea is ideally used as a preventative applied to the leaves at the beginning of the season, before problems develop, and then reapplied every two weeks or so until flowering (or as the need arises). Any type of spray bottle designed to apply pesticides can be cleaned and converted into a compost-tea sprayer.

Compost tea gardeners also use the tea as a soil drench, applying it heavily in the beginning of the season in order to build up a "living soil" filled with beneficial microorganisms, and then reapplying it all the way up to the flowering stage to support the formation of strong, resin-soaked buds. ✨

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# Feel Secure Yet?

The rise of the Department of Homeland Security is an Orwellian nightmare. Mechanisms that were created to combat the threat of terrorism are now used liberally for surveillance on ordinary Americans. *By Mark Miller*

**Consider, if you will,** the following:

- Torture, brutal beatings, and sexual assaults taking place at government holding areas for detainees.
- An innocuous trip to the mall that results in a shopper's name being placed in a confidential report and forwarded to the police.
- Personal information about US citizens being extracted during government data-mining "tests."
- Personal mail routinely being opened and read because it was sent from other countries.
- Law enforcement groups, aided and abetted by "anti-terrorism" analysts, monitoring antiwar protestors, environmental groups, abortion activists (pro and con), even third-party voters.

Is this the stuff of fiction, the picture of a fascist takeover of America ripped from the pages of the latest paperback thriller? Nope—it's what's going on right here, right now in the good ol' USA, all courtesy of the Department of Homeland Security.

## Securing Our Homeland

This year marks a full decade since the formation of the DHS. In that short time, it has grown to become the third-largest US Cabinet department, employing almost a quarter of a million people. Those figures shouldn't come as a surprise, considering the sheer number of agencies encompassed under the DHS umbrella, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Secret Service, the Coast Guard, US Customs and Border Protection, and the Office of Counternarcotics Enforcement. The department was created by the Bush administration in 2002 in response to the event that has dominated and largely defined both US security measures and geopolitics in the 21st century—the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

"One Team, One Mission, Securing Our Homeland" is the proud (if ineptly punctuated) motto of the DHS, and its declared mission statement sounds clear and resolute: "to lead the unified national effort to secure the country and preserve our freedoms."

But while the DHS may be "securing" the country (*for whom* is another question), is it truly in the business of preserving our freedoms? Or is it instead

advancing a police state in which our constitutional rights—including the right to privacy—are regarded as quaint relics of the 20th century?

Over the years, the activities of the DHS have raised more questions than answers, prompting investigative journalism from both the mainstream and alternative press as well as conspiratology circles—most notably Alex Jones, the creator of *Infowars.com*, and former Minnesota governor Jesse Ventura, host of truTV's *Conspiracy Theory*, who did a controversial episode on the growth of FEMA's detention camps.

Even the term "Homeland" is problematic in some circles, since it seems to echo Nazi Germany's self-referential use of the term "Fatherland" (though, to be fair, the word *Heimat*, roughly translated as "homeland," was in use in Germany long before the Nazis came to power). More telling is the official DHS seal: It depicts an eagle "whose outstretched wings break through an inner red ring into an outer white ring," symbolizing that the department will transcend the typical bureaucratic red tape and "perform government functions differently" (to quote the DHS's own press release). Yet it's precisely those

unspecified ways of performing government functions “differently”—especially those that infringe upon our basic rights—that pose the greatest concern.

In mid-2011, the Aspen Institute’s annual Security Forum (think along the lines of the Council on Foreign Relations, another organization that brings together those in power to decide the direction of public policy) formally advocated that the DHS shift its priorities from foreign threats to a more domestic agenda. That includes safeguarding the nation from the threat of “homegrown terror” as well as providing cyber security, all with the intent of protecting “critical infrastructure”—code for government and corporate property and interests. Given that the DHS was created as a direct response to the September 11 attacks, this kind of “mission creep” recalls the US’s ill-fated decision to invade Iraq as part of its War on Terror—despite the fact that the country had absolutely nothing to do with 9/11.

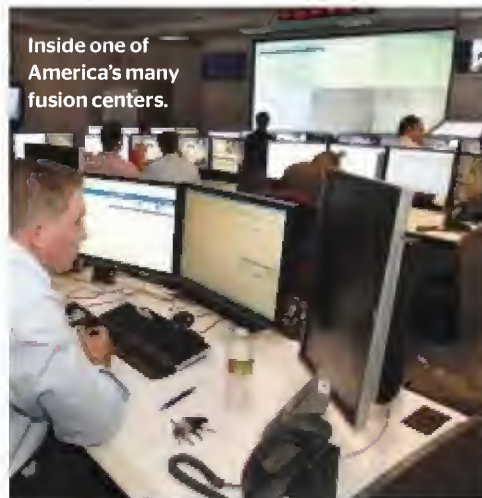
### Skating On Thin ICE

In 2003, just a year after its formation, the DHS absorbed the former Immigration and Naturalization Service and retooled it as Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), which operates a sprawling network of prisons, jails and detention centers nationwide—more than 200 at last count, according to a *New York Times* article published in 2010. A more recent *Times* editorial (December 4, 2011) condemned this detention system as “dangerously broken” after numerous reports of people in custody being beaten or sexually assaulted, as well as sick or injured detainees going untreated and left to die.

Last December, for example, the ACLU filed a lawsuit on behalf of a transgender woman who alleges that she was sexually abused twice at a detention center in Eloy, AZ—the same center where 18 Hawaiian prisoners were also allegedly tortured. The Eloy facility is run under contract by a private company, Corrections Corporation of America, which has also been sued by the ACLU in Idaho over the number of violent inmate assaults in the facility that it operates there (in 2008, more than every other prison in the state *combined*).

The *Times* editorial also criticized the Obama administration for its failure to make good on its 2009 promise to reform this system, pointing out that the majority of detainees in these facilities—some 400,000 per year—“are not being held

as criminals and pose no threat.” The editorial noted that the ACLU uncovered almost 200 allegations of sexual abuse at the ICE facilities urged the US Department of Justice to abandon its proposed rule *exempting* these centers from the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act, which aims to prevent the sexual abuse of those in custody. The fact that such a rule would even be contemplated by the Justice Department suggests a strong desire to curtail investigations into the seemingly institutionalized and systematic abuse at these detention centers.



*Even the term “Homeland” is problematic in some circles, since it seems to echo Nazi Germany’s self-referential use of the term “Fatherland.”*

Within a week, the DHS issued a rebuttal (also published in the *Times*) insisting that ICE has implemented reforms and oversight as a result of the abuses, and that the agency does indeed support the Prison Rape Elimination Act—yet it never addressed why the Justice Department would propose such an exemption in the first place, or what it says about the department’s willingness to investigate the sexual assaults and other abuses being committed in these facilities.

Another overreaching element to ICE is the agency’s Homeland Security Investigations Tip Line, which encourages John Q. Public to play DHS narc and call an 800 number to report any number of crimes, up to and including “intellectual property rights violations” (because that’s the first thing that comes to mind when people think of “homeland” security—making sure patents are protected).

### Cold Fusion

Unknown to most Americans is the existence of so-called “fusion centers” that have been in place in some locales for nearly a decade, established by the DHS between 2003 and 2007. Sources as disparate as the Cato Institute, a conservative libertarian think tank, and the progressive radio/TV show *Democracy Now* have criticized the excesses being committed by these centers.

Fusion centers engage in data mining, a relatively new field of computer science in which “hidden knowledge” is obtained via discovering new patterns generated by the intersection of various data sets. To accomplish this, fusion centers utilize personnel from local, state and federal intelligence and law enforcement agencies, including the CIA and FBI (hence the “fusion” part), who gather and share raw information on “criminals and terrorists” in conjunction with the private sector—be it companies or citizens—with the objective of achieving a more sophisticated integration of raw data to yield more accurate analysis.

At last count, there were 72 fusion centers across the country, most heavily concentrated around urban areas (for an eye-opening map, go to <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/are-we-safer/fusion-centers>). What’s really going on here, though? Examples of the “analysis” being generated by these centers run the gamut from the ludicrous to the downright disturbing, especially when it comes to signs of creeping (and creepy) fascism. For example, a Washington State fusion center was involved in spying on antiwar activists and anarchists. In Wisconsin, both pro- and anti-abortion activists were placed under surveillance. In Pennsylvania, the DHS didn’t discriminate when it came to the political spectrum: *Everyone* got snooped on, from environmentalists to Tea Partiers and the right-to-bear-arms crowd.

Scarier still was the Maryland State Police entering the names of anti-death-penalty activists and antiwar protestors in a federal database for potential terrorists and “high-intensity” drug traffickers. And you’d better be a Democrat or a very mainstream Republican in Missouri, since third-party voters and Ron Paul supporters were being monitored by the DHS fusion center there.

As to the ultimate purpose of these centers, do they truly exist to curtail crime and prevent acts of terrorism? Or do they serve as the justification and means by which the multiple prongs of

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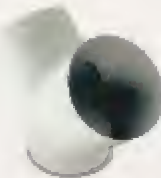
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government—local, state and federal—can effectively conduct surveillance on nearly every component of virtually every American's life?

### Mail Fraud

In 2006, MSNBC reported that Grant Goodman, an 81-year-old retired history professor from the University of Kansas, received a letter from a friend in the Philippines, only to discover that it had been opened and resealed with a strip of tape bearing the official Homeland Security seal—courtesy of US Customs and Border Protection, which had decided to inspect the letter even though it was sent to him by a Filipina colleague (a “devout Catholic,” according to Goodman) with no absolutely no record of involvement in terrorism, Islamic or otherwise, in her life.

Once upon a time, such official behavior would have stood as an outrageous affront to the cherished American value of privacy. But, apparently, that's the way it's going to be in “War on Terror” America: A Customs and Border Protection spokesman confirmed that *all* mail originating from a foreign location—including personal correspondence—is subject to examination by the CPB.

### Mauling America

Located in Bloomington, MN, the Mall of America is the second-largest in terms of space in the US, with the greatest number of stores in the country (more than 500). The mall receives more than 40 million visitors annually—and it has also been the site of some of the most egregious DHS fusion-center-related activity in recent years.

### *Everyone got snooped on, from environmentalists to Tea Partiers and the right-to-bear-arms crowd.*

Then there's the tale of Najam Qureshi, a kiosk operator at the Mall of America selling goods from his, er, homeland of Pakistan. One day, Qureshi's father threatened the security of this nation by accidentally leaving his cell phone on a table in the mall's food court. An FBI agent later showed up at Qureshi's home to question his family about the “incident” and determine whether they were acquainted with anyone who might pose a threat to the US.

### Bad 'Advise'

We're not sure whether or not to give the DHS credit for this one, but in the interests of fairness, we'll include it. According to the Associated Press, in 2007 the department finally ceased operation of a wide-ranging “anti-terrorism” data mining system dubbed ADVISE, an acronym for Analysis, Dissemination, Visualization, Insight and Semantic Enhancement. (Rolls right off the tongue, doesn't it?)

ADVISE was shut down after the DHS's inspector general discovered after the fact that system tests were being conducted using the personal information of real people in “data mining exercises” instead of the legally required dummy values. Unfortunately, this dismantling was hardly done in a timely manner, since the Government Accountability Office had declared months earlier that ADVISE could misidentify and/or erroneously associate innocent people with fraud, crime and even terrorist acts.

### Working For Big Brother

Oddly enough, rank-and-file employees at the DHS don't seem to relish their jobs. (Then again, why would they?) In a 2006 survey of workers in 36 different federal agencies, DHS came in last or

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near last in every category, from grading management to job satisfaction. Had there been a rating for “Most Paranoid Work Environment,” the DHS would’ve won going away. One of the specific criticisms that DHS employees leveled in the survey was a lack of information about what goes on in the organization, hinting at upper-level DHS secrecy.

### The Universal Adversary

Not feeling paranoid enough yet? Then meet the “Universal Adversary,” a chilling term that suggests that anyone—and perhaps *everyone*—can ultimately be regarded as an enemy by the DHS.

As reported by the Canadian-based Centre for Research on Globalisation, the Universal Adversary (UA) is a theoretical construct defined by the Homeland Security Council to include not just the usual foreign terrorists and rogue states, but also “domestic radical groups” (think Occupy Wall Street or even pot-legalization organizations) and “disgruntled employees” (such as striking labor unions).

The Universal Adversary Program actually predates 9/11: It was developed in response to a September 2000 US Senate report requiring that anti-terrorism exercises include a realistic “threat

## The DHS’s Federal Protective Service was used in conjunction with local police to break up the Occupy Wall Street camp in Portland, OR.

model.” By 2005, the all-embracing UA concept was being deployed as a “reality model” in the first-ever test of US intelligence systems in a *domestic* counterterrorism exercise.

There is also the concern that this “fictional yet highly realistic adversary” (to quote FEMA’s own words) can *create* a perceived threat in the minds of the more than 10,000 participants (including federal, state and local officials, as well as law-enforcement officers on every level) who have engaged in UA exercises. Indeed, in a seeming real-world application of the program, the DHS’s Federal Protective Service was used in conjunction with local police to break up the Occupy Wall Street camp in Portland, OR.

And what might the DHS be planning to do with those it identifies as the Universal Adversary? Lock ‘em up in FEMA-operated prison camps. As reported by *Infowars.com*, in May 2011 the DHS solicited for private contractors to construct “National Responder Support Camps.” You

may remember FEMA best for its inept response to Hurricane Katrina, but the agency also assists with designated National Special Security Events (NSSE). One event was the 2008 Republican National Convention in St. Paul, MN, where protesting activists arrested and charged with “conspiracy to riot in the second degree in the furtherance of terrorism.” It’s not hard to imagine a future scenario in which homegrown “terrorists” are detained in these soon-to-be-built “Support Camps.”

This article merely scratches the surface of the last 10 years, and we encourage every reader to research these issues. The DHS’s corruption of power exists at many levels, and it simply cannot be tolerated by a society that wishes to remain free. We need to build an awareness of these abuses being committed in the name of “homeland security.” Since the DHS is probably monitoring you one way or another, why not keep tabs on them? We sure plan to. ✨

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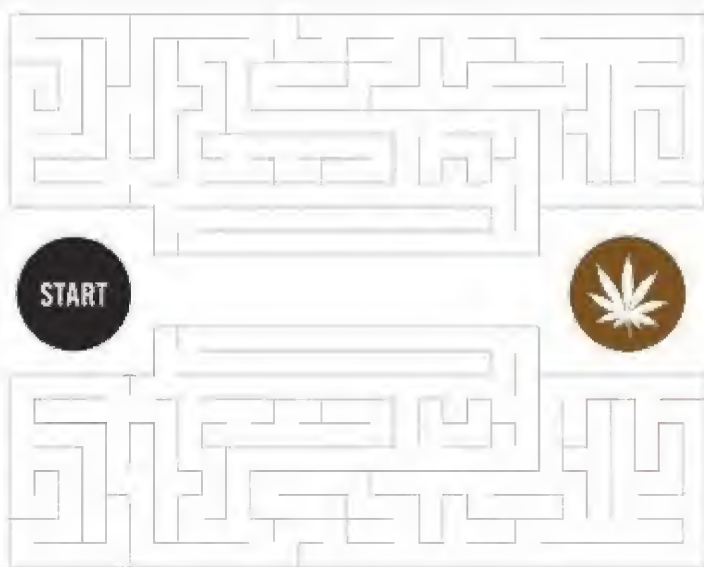
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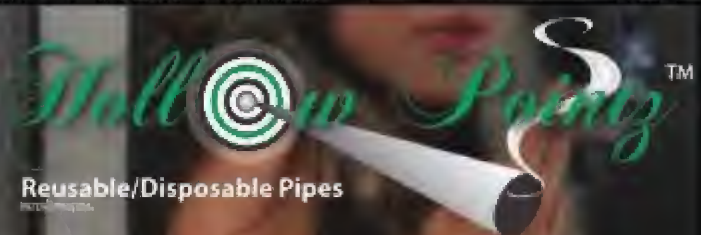


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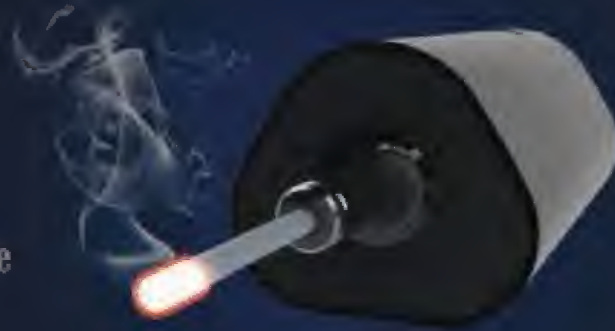
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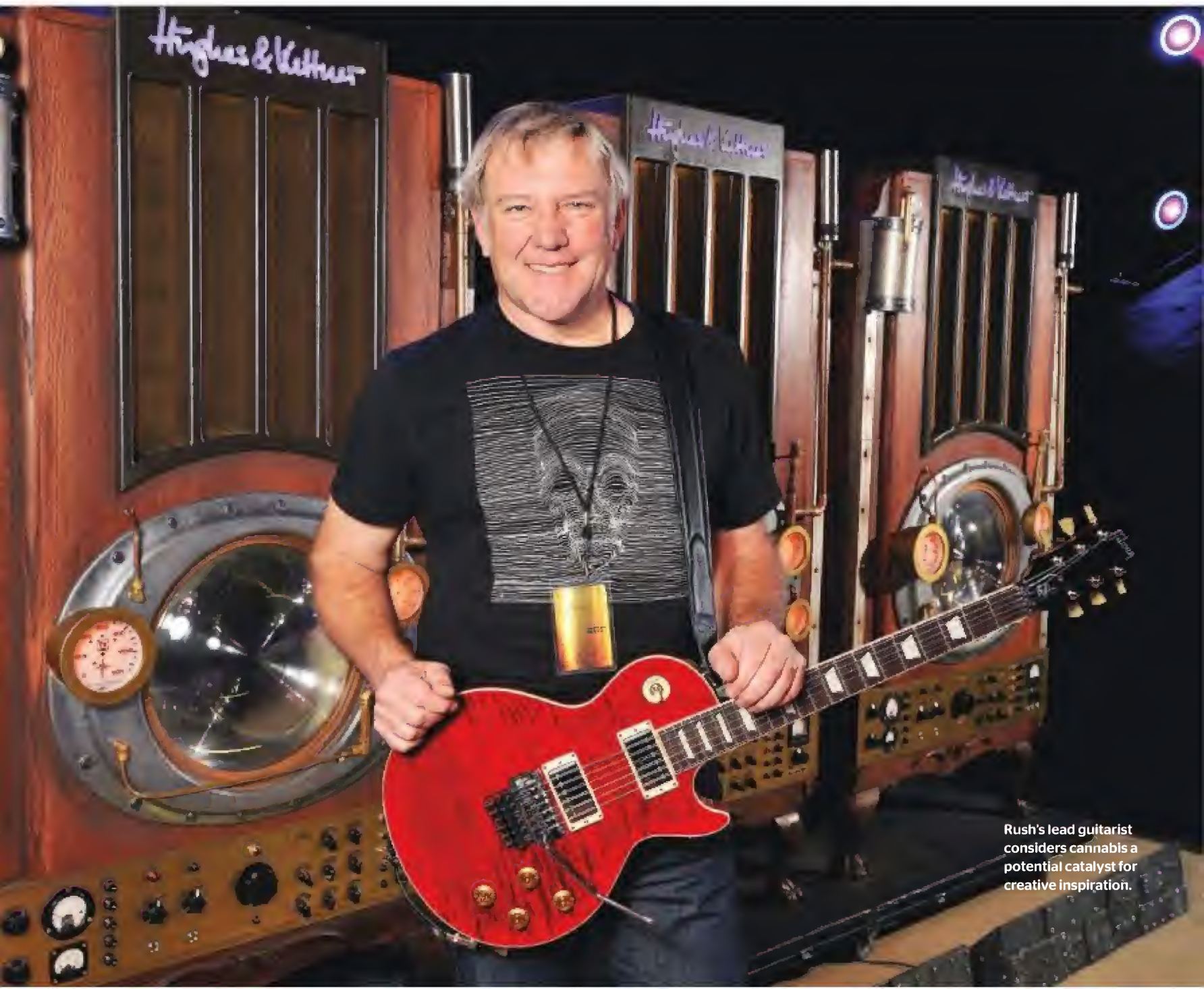


by DAVID BIENENSTOCK



# ALEX LIFESON

## THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW



Rush's lead guitarist considers cannabis a potential catalyst for creative inspiration.

**W**hen I first started working at HIGH TIMES, I noticed a strange phenomenon. Every afternoon around 4:25 p.m., somebody down at the other end of the office would start blasting Rush. When curiosity finally got the better of me, I walked toward the music and found cultivation editor Kyle Kushman rocking out to his favorite band with wild abandon. It was like he was at home, in a smoke-filled basement with headphones on and a packed bong, instead of in the middle of a bustling workplace in midtown Manhattan.

Kyle eventually pulled up stakes and moved to the wilds of Northern California, choosing to leave Gotham's publishing world behind to pursue his dream of breeding the best medical cannabis on the planet. So imagine Kyle's surprise when I called to invite him down to LA for an interview with Rush guitarist Alex Lifeson, who agreed to sit down with HIGH TIMES largely based on a referral from our mutual friends, the *Trailer Park Boys*.

In 2003, Lifeson guest-starred in an episode of

*"In the early '70s, the quality was very limited. Now there is more sophistication among growers—they know how to bring up the quality."*

the *Trailer Park Boys*, in what was arguably the cult Canadian TV show's funniest ever.

"It's funny," Lifeson says. "In Canada, those guys are *gods*. I don't know how many times I've been out walking around and someone's come up to me and said, 'Hey, you're the guy from *Trailer Park Boys*!' Never mind the 40 years of records and all that other stuff: 'You're the guy from *Trailer Park Boys*!' Yeah, that's me."

The guitarist greets us on the roof deck of a hotel in downtown LA.

He's in the city along with lead singer Geddy Lee and drummer extraordinaire Neil Peart to finish up recording Rush's 21st studio album, *Clockwork Angels*. For a man who's part of one of rock's truly chart-topping acts—a power trio second only to the Beatles and the Rolling Stones for the most consecutive gold or platinum albums—Lifeson couldn't be more gracious or accommodating.

**You founded Rush in 1968 and still seem to find so much joy in recording and performing. What makes this new album unique?**

All of our records are thematic, but this one is a little more of an old-fashioned concept album in the tradition of *2112* and *Hemispheres*. We just recorded a string section yesterday for five of the songs—we still have to sit down and see what we'll use from that, but it sounded fantastic. Rush hasn't used strings in a while, and it's really added a lot of emotional impact to the songs.

**How did you first get into *The Trailer Park Boys*?**

It's funny—my wife turned me on to the show. The first time I watched it, in the first 10 minutes I thought: 'I don't think this is really for me ... I don't get it.' But by the end of the episode, I realized that this is some of the best stuff I've seen on television. And the more I watched, the more I learned that the show's really about friendship, and about helping each other and loving each other and always being there, no matter who you are or what you are or where your station is in life. Every episode ends on that note.

**Do you see a parallel between that kind of ethos and Rush?**

Well, Geddy and I have been friends since grade eight; I introduced him to his wife when we were *teenagers*. We've experienced so much together, within the band and outside of the band. There's a brotherhood that exists between all of us—I'm only highlighting Geddy because our relationship has been longer. But for the last 38 years, it's been the three of us—and we've gone through a lot of ups and downs over that time, but throughout it all, we've always enjoyed each other's company.

You know, you hear stories about how certain bands get along, or don't get along—separate dressing rooms, separate travel arrangements; they don't say a word to each other for a whole tour. I can't possibly imagine something like that.

**Aside from the band, you and Lee also share a love of fine wine...**

We both started collecting in the mid-'70s, I guess. Until then, our experience with wine was typically the kind of \$3 bottles you drink as quickly as possible. But then a promoter named Randy McElrath took us out for dinner after a show and asked us if we had any interest in wine. He ordered a bottle of Château Latour and Château Margaux, and we drank those wines and they were spectacular. I had no conception of wine being like that—how it would *transform* in the glass.

Geddy's wine collection is to die for, it's so smart and so well developed. I try to help him drink it whenever I can [laughs]. On the road, after a show, we have a nice little meal—sitting there in our underwear—and we always have a great bottle of wine. Generally, we bring bottles from home, from our cellars, because that's the good stuff we always promise to share.

**Do you see any parallels between the connoisseurship of wine and cannabis?**

Well, yeah...when I first started smoking pot, it was probably mostly Mexican pot, and occasionally you'd get something from South America. Very, very rarely would you get Thai Stick or Cambodian or something from that part of the world.

I think the first time I smoked pot was in the fall of 1967. I remember smoking a joint in the back of a plaza, hiding behind the garbage bins. I can't remember if I

really got high from it or what exactly, but certainly in those days and in the early '70s, the quality was very limited. I mean, now there is much more sophistication among the growers—they know how to bring up the quality.

Wine has evolved the same way, in the same time frame. The California wine scene in the early '70s was really a dozen or so wineries. Now, there are hundreds, including small producers that arguably make the best wines in the world. And I think cannabis has become like that—a lot more sophisticated. The boomer generation has grown older, and it's a whole different scene now. I know so many people my age that smoke pot just as part of their normal routine of having dinner, then doing the dishes, and then having a puff before watching a movie or finishing some work from the day or whatever.

**So you support full legalization for adults?**

I do. In fact, the Liberal Party in Canada just endorsed legalization, and I think that's a very smart move on their part. Meanwhile, the current Conservative government wants to bring back more stringent laws and rules against pot. Personally, I just think, at the end of the day, who cares if people want to smoke some pot? More trouble happens with alcohol than with pot, so we have to start viewing the issue more sensibly.

**Do you consider yourself a libertarian?**

I think I'm a liberal. I'm certainly socially liberal. And I think government can play an important role in our lives, which libertarians don't believe.

As far as our album *2112* and the tribute to Ayn Rand—I read one of her books, but she was a little too far out for me. For Neil, it was a period

in his life, and now he's kind of moved on.

**The struggle between the free individual and the power of the state has always been a theme for Rush. From when you guys started as a band until now, how do you see that pendulum swinging?**

I think it's swinging forcefully in the wrong direction. I can't understand what's happened to my generation: We were the generation of free-thinking people, even in terms of pot. But as we've gotten older, we've become more conservative, and it's the people that I thought of as holding up the banner of liberty that are now very close-minded.

**So you agree with the libertarian argument against marijuana prohibition, but you're not necessarily a libertarian?**

Exactly. I don't want to get political, but our whole drug policy is out of whack. Billions of dollars are spent on it—and, really, the only people who profit from it are the underworld, for lack of a bet-

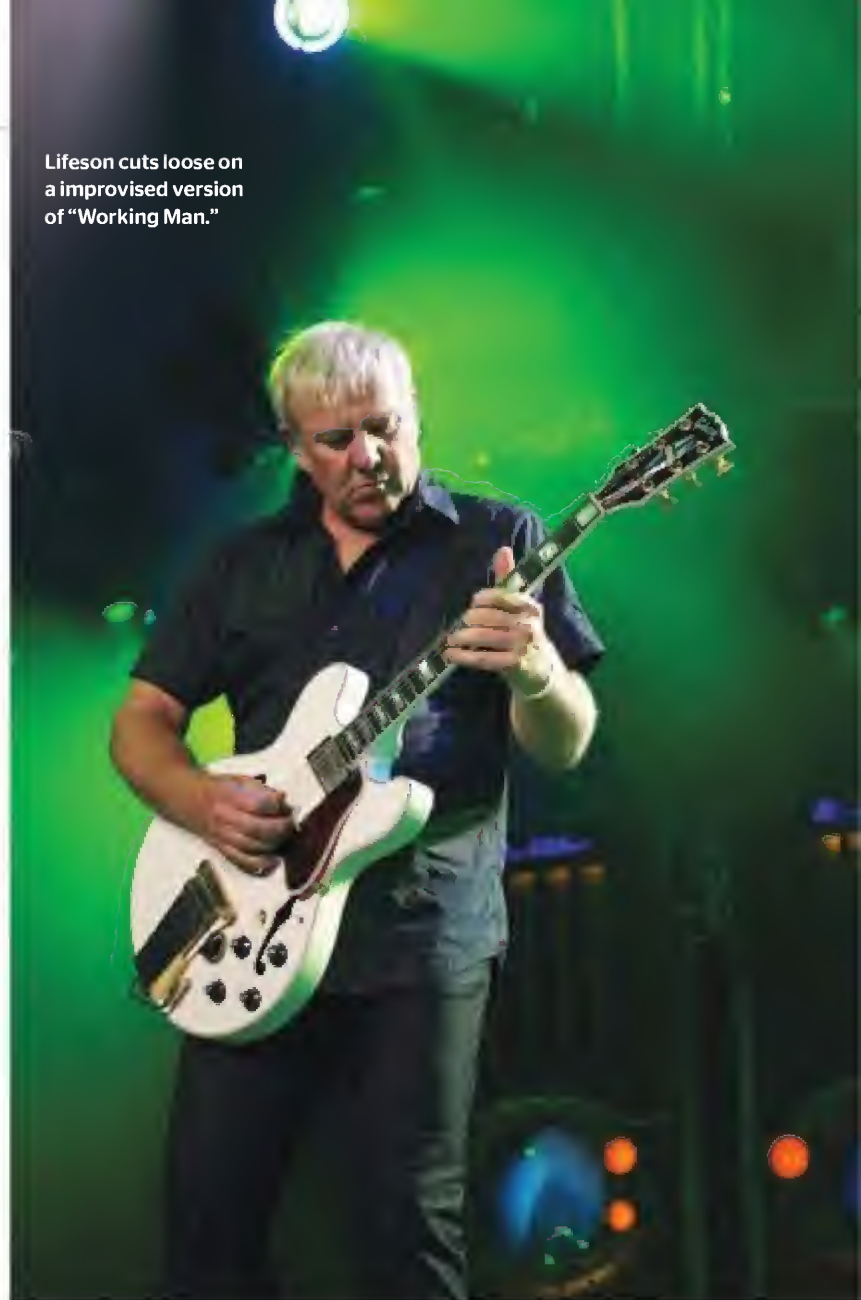
*“The Liberal Party in Canada just endorsed legalization. I think that's a very smart move on their part.”*



ter term. So why not put that money into controlling the quality and putting more money into the coffers for our social programs, for people who need health care, who are starving...

**Okay, you're a liberal. So what can you tell me about the writing of the song “Passage to Bangkok”?**

That should be self-evident—it's about a fun little journey to all the good places you could go to have a puff. We thought it would be kind



Lifeson cuts loose on a improvised version of “Working Man.”

of fun to write a song about that, and Neil did it in a very eloquent way, I think. That song was probably written in a farmhouse, on an acoustic guitar, in front of a little cassette player of some sort. We would record like that and then go down in the basement and rehearse it.

**In those days, HIGH TIMES actually reported on pricing and quality in all of the places mentioned in the song—Colombia, Thailand, Jamaica, Morocco... The magazine launched in**

**1974, before high-quality domestic homegrown, so we used to keep professional smugglers informed on, say, the price of a pound of Nepalese hashish.**

That's right! I remember thinking, “Oh my God, this magazine is so cool.” I think we probably got the first issue.

**So it's safe to say that HIGH TIMES inspired the writing of “Passage to Bangkok”?**

It's *very* safe to say that.

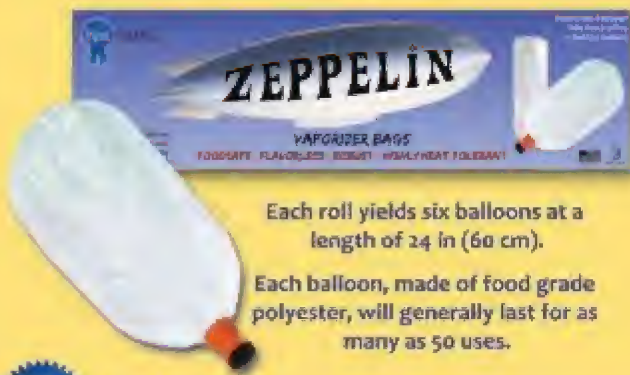
**Certainly a lot of Rush fans smoke pot. Do you think there's a connectivity between the state of mind that pot can bring you to and the state of mind that Rush can bring you to?**

“Do things go better with pot?” Sometimes they do, sometimes they don't. I find that you can be very imaginative when stoned, you

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Lifeson and Rush lead singer Geddy Lee have been friends since 8th grade.

can be very creative—but implementation is sometimes difficult. In the past, there have been times when I've been really inspired in writing and came up with things that I would never otherwise think up. But the actual playing can be obstructed a little bit.

In the very, very early days, occasionally—well, more than “occasionally”—Neil and I would smoke a joint before going on. I mean, this is in the mid-'70s; I would never, ever do something like that now. I won't even have a sip of beer before a show, because I need to be extremely clearheaded. Of course, some people can smoke and remain clear-headed—just not me.

But back when we were younger and a little crazier, and we were only playing for 25 minutes or half an hour at a time, it was okay to smoke before a show. I still played well .... Also, back then our music was relatively straightforward—but quickly the arrangements became much more complicated, and we all feel an enormous responsibility to put on the best show we can on a night-to-night basis.

**How about offstage? Is there a vast trove of Rush jam sessions that no one knows about?**

There's a ton of crazy shit that we do in sound check. Some of it—I mean, maybe I'm not objective, but some of it was really great. I smiled when you were asking the question, because we've been trying to be a little looser in that respect. There's not a whole lot of room, but in

a song like “Working Man,” for example, it's at the end of the night, and so we've turned it into an open platform—we just play like crazy. It's a great way to end the show, for the audience and for us, because no two nights are the same.

**Have you ever been a fan of largely improvisational rock bands like, say, the Grateful Dead?**

Yeah, I especially love the Dead from around 1967 to the mid-'70s. We use to play a couple of Dead songs when we were a bar band. Back then, we were much more of a jam band—we did a version of “For What It's Worth” that was 20 minutes long.

**So Kyle and I are staying down the street at a hotel that's affectionately known as the “Riot House,” where Jim Morrison hung out the window by his fingertips and Robert Plant bellowed, “I am a golden god!” Are there Rush stories like that, but they just never got told?**

Not really, I almost hate to say. I guess we had our times in those days, but really, we were always in the shadow of the headlining act. If we stayed in the same hotel, we were usually in our rooms looking down the hallway, watching *them* throw TVs out the window and stuff. That was too expensive a hobby for us.

Seriously, we were never really crazy like that. Those classic rock'n'roll stories were never really a part of our world. Most times on the road, Neil was reading and we'd be watching TV or something. 🌿

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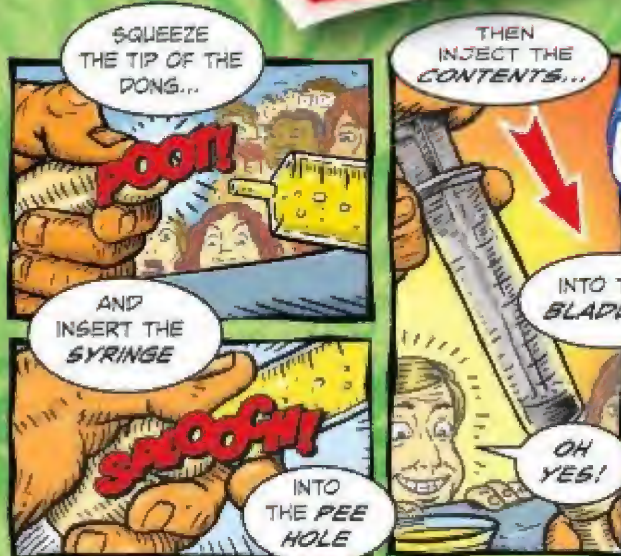
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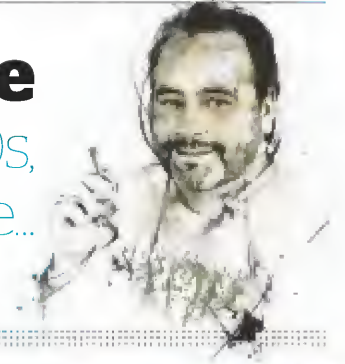
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SUBJECT: **Protecting Outdoor Crops**

FROM: **A Blister in the Sun**

🌿 I want to grow outdoors, but I'm concerned about people stealing my plants in the middle of the night. I've heard that there are rippers in my area who go from place to place looking for gardens to rob, and I'm worried they might target my plot with their nefarious plans to reap what someone else has sown. How can I protect my precious pot from these pernicious pests?

Dear Blister, I know I might catch some heat from the NRA crowd for this, but I would instantly rule out using a gun for home or garden protection. For one thing, if you're busted for growing, having a gun on the premises can add significantly to the criminal charges. Plus, shooting a person for stealing your pot—however satisfying the idea may seem in theory—is a reality no peaceful pot grower should ever hope to face.

My personal belief is that having a gun in the house only increases the chance of accidents. Violence merely begets more violence, and guns carry with them a power I'd rather not surround my family with in our home.

A good guard dog inside a fenced-in area can work wonders to protect your clandestine crop. Other committed farmers I know actually camp out and sleep among their plants in tents or teepees.

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**SUBJECT: Vegetation Information**

**FROM: Fish Apple**

🌱 How long should I keep my plants in their vegetative stage indoors before flowering? How many weeks do I let them grow bigger, and how tall will they get during that time?

Dear Fish,  
One of the advantages to growing indoors is that you get to pick and choose when to begin flowering your plants (as long as they're not of the auto-flowering variety). This means if you want smaller plants, you begin the flowering period after a week or two of vegetating, and if you want larger ones, you

can wait more than a month to let the plants develop.

Seedlings or clones require at least 18 hours of light to thrive and remain in the vegetative period. During this time, your plant will grow many fan leaves, and new shoots will form into tops and branches as your root system expands in its medium. You trigger the start of the flowering period by changing your light timer to a 12-hours-on/12-hours-off cycle. This mimicking of summer-to-fall lighting will signal the plant to begin forming flowers instead of growing ever larger (though keep in mind there's a several-week stretching period as the plants transition, and they will continue to grow during this time). Soon you'll see the white-haired puffballs at the ends of

branches that eventually become thick colas of cannabis flowers.

One rule of thumb that I recommend in order to avoid having your plants become too root-bound is to vegetate them one week for every gallon of space in their containers—meaning plants in 1-gallon pots would vegetate for a week, while those in 4-gallon buckets would vegetate for a month. The longer the vegetating period, the bigger the yield, but this requires larger containers capable of supporting bigger root systems.

**SUBJECT: Shipping Seeds**

**FROM: Ross**

🌱 Hi, Danny! I've been listening to your podcast for a while now, and I have a question that's more about the security side of growing.

I'm a 50-plus-year-old man, and my wife and I have some medical issues that are being relieved by medical marijuana munchies from a friend. We're going to get our own medical permits soon, and I want to make my own cabinet growbox. I'm pretty savvy on the tech/grow side, so my question is this: How can I securely order the seeds? I see sites for companies like Attitude Seeds and BC Bud Depot that say they ship discreetly when you order from the Web. Is there more to it than that? Can I really order seeds from Amsterdam or Canada and have them shipped to my house without attracting suspicion? (I'm in Oregon, if that makes any difference.)

Thanks again for the *Free Weed* podcast—it's great!

Dear Ross,

Thanks for the kind words. As for ordering seeds, it's still a gray area, and sometimes a difficult one to navigate. The first rule of thumb is never to have the seeds shipped to the location of your grow site. There are many companies that produce and ship seeds, but not nearly as many that will send them to the US, especially after the extradition and jailing of Marc Emery from Canada, which struck fear into many a budding seed-breeding entrepreneur.

However, there are still some companies that do ship to the States, based primarily in the UK, Spain, Canada and the Netherlands. Do your due diligence and research before committing your dough to the endeavor. Find companies that have been around for a while, and

**Jack Herer**



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*Danko Tip:* Blooming additives work best when added during the second to fifth week of the flowering stage.

avoid fly-by-night operations with little online feedback or murky customer service records. One great place to start is my HIGH TIMES Seed Bank Hall of Fame, which profiles 30 of the world's finest seed companies. Go to [hightimes.com/seedbankhalloffame](http://hightimes.com/seedbankhalloffame) to get the entire list and choose from among the finest seeds available.

SUBJECT: **Thick Trunks**

FROM: **Tony Sparks**

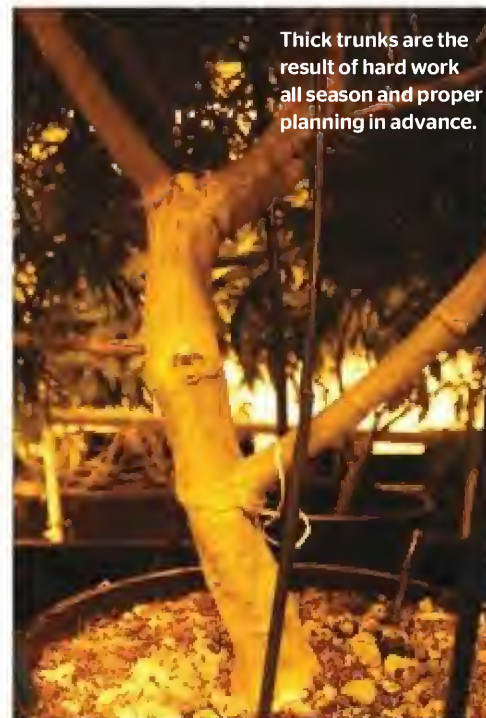
🌿 I grow big plants outdoors. What's the best way to cut through the trunks at the base of my giants? I've been using a handsaw till now, but it takes a while and it's pretty tedious considering how many plants I need to get down.

Dear Tony,  
Sounds like a great problem to have! I think you'd be better off with a cordless, rechargeable power handsaw. You can find these for less than \$100 at most hardware stores or online. Just make sure the blade and saw are long enough and strong enough to do the job. Perhaps a really sharp axe would do as well, but it doesn't sound like you're on a budget, so go with the power tool to save time and energy (and always remember to keep it well sharpened).

SUBJECT: **Vegging Under LED Lights**

FROM: **GregFat**

🌿 A couple of months ago, we invested in some high-quality diode lights similar to LED lamps. These lights were very expensive, but we figured the cost would be mitigated by the electrical savings. However, some of the plants under these lights are showing stress in the form of disfigured or dry-looking new growth, though others look just fine. We wanted to veg them under these lights and then switch them at flowering to 1,000-watt high-pressure sodium (HPS). After switching to HPS, we keep the bulbs about four feet above the plants and veg them for an extra week so they can get used to the different light. I've never seen anyone attempt this before, and I'm curious as to what effect this could have on an otherwise healthy plant. Do you think this method would be okay, or should I veg and flower under the same type of light for the entire life cycle of the plant?



Thick trunks are the result of hard work all season and proper planning in advance.

Dear Greg,  
You don't need to vegetate and flower your plants under the same type of light, but it does sound like the ones you're using aren't the ideal choice. If the plants are showing stress, then it's possible these diode lights weren't meant for cultivation purposes. (Vegging under LEDs is usually a good idea, as it helps to keep the internodal spaces close together, which means the plant becomes more compact and bushy.) Consider switching to a 250- or 400-watt metal halide (MH) light for the vegetative stage.

Also, four feet is too much of a distance to keep your 1,000-watt HPS lights from the plant tops. You're causing the plants to stretch more than they should, as well as not providing them with enough lumens to thrive during the important transitional time between vegetation and blooming. Lower the lights halfway and you'll see the plants start to thrive right away.

SUBJECT: **Moldy Buds**

FROM: **Ashuma**

🌿 I'm all about my outdoor meds (LA Confidential, Afghan Kush and Don Corleone). Over the summer, we had a few rainy days in a row, and that led to a mildew problem. I lost the battle to control it, and now I'm truly grossed out by the whole grow—so much so that I'm thinking of trashing it. Any suggestions? Thanks.

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*Danko Tip:* Hang harvested buds to dry until the stems snap instead of bending. Now they're ready to cure in jars.

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Molds attack quickly and turn buds into toxic mush.

Dear Ashuma,  
Unfortunately, I think your first instinct is the best one: If things are so out of hand mold-wise that you're grossed out, then the best thing to do is bag it and start over. Trash the crop and get to work on having a better harvest next time around. Try to get yourself seeds or clones of a strain that's more mold-resistant. Also, consider using containers and bringing your plants indoors during rainstorms or humid weather—or, if they're firmly planted in the ground, shake them off vigorously after rainstorms and in the morning to remove dew. Good luck!

**SUBJECT: CO<sub>2</sub> and Plant Weight**

**FROM: Clint**

🌱 At what rate do fan leaves absorb carbon dioxide? Also, how much weight could you hypothetically hang from a four-week-old plant?

Dear Clint,  
The optimum level of CO<sub>2</sub> for cannabis plants to absorb is around 1,500 ppm (parts per million). Normal fresh air has approximately 300 to 400 ppm, so the only way to get the CO<sub>2</sub> up to that optimum level is to add it using a tank or generator (though several more affordable—and natural—bucket and bag systems exist for smaller applications such as closets and growboxes).

When adding CO<sub>2</sub> to boost flower production, you must use a regulator or controller that's timed to release the gas at regular intervals, or one with a sensor that keeps the level at a constant 1,500 ppm during daylight hours. Tubing with holes in it, placed at the level of the grow lights, will allow the heavier-than-air gas to cascade down to the waiting buds.

As for your second question, cannabis's flowering time is several months, so you won't be able to hang anything from a 4-week-old plant. You need to factor in time for germination, vegetative growth and flowering, which is a minimum of around three months. It's worth the wait, though, because if you're patient and thorough, you'll be rewarded with perfect pot for pennies to the dollar. 🌱



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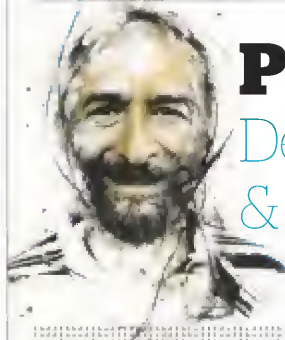
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# Pot on the Brain

## Dementia, babies & modern lit



Got a question for Dr. Mitch? Email him at [420research@gmail.com](mailto:420research@gmail.com).

Dr. Mitch,  
What's the latest on marijuana and dementia?

—EZ Rider

Hi EZ,  
We have one study showing that THC can ease the night-time thrashing and wakefulness common in folks with dementia—and since cannabidiol (CBD) can help minimize psychotic thoughts, it might ease some of the disorientation common in dementia as well. Unfortunately, it's terribly hard to get funding for this sort of research. Other plants have also shown some promise: People who eat a lot of curry (and moderate drinkers of red wine) seem to have lower rates of dementia, too.

Can you clarify the new findings on using the plant during pregnancy?

—Momma S.

Hi Momma,  
I've always been a fan of letting pregnancy run its course with as little meddling as possible. Most previous studies have had obvious problems that make them hard to interpret, or else they've shown little impact from using the plant on the child. But a new study out of Australia examined almost 25,000 births: After the researchers controlled for all the usual socioeconomic correlates, they found that moms who used cannabis during pregnancy had babies who averaged 13 ounces lighter and a half-inch shorter, and were also twice as likely to end up in the neonatal intensive care unit. None of these effects is huge,



Toking while pregnant is a no-no, says Dr. Mitch.

"I've always been a fan of letting pregnancy run its course with as little meddling as possible."

but at the same time—and although plenty of folks won't agree—I do have genuine concerns about regular cannabis use during pregnancy.

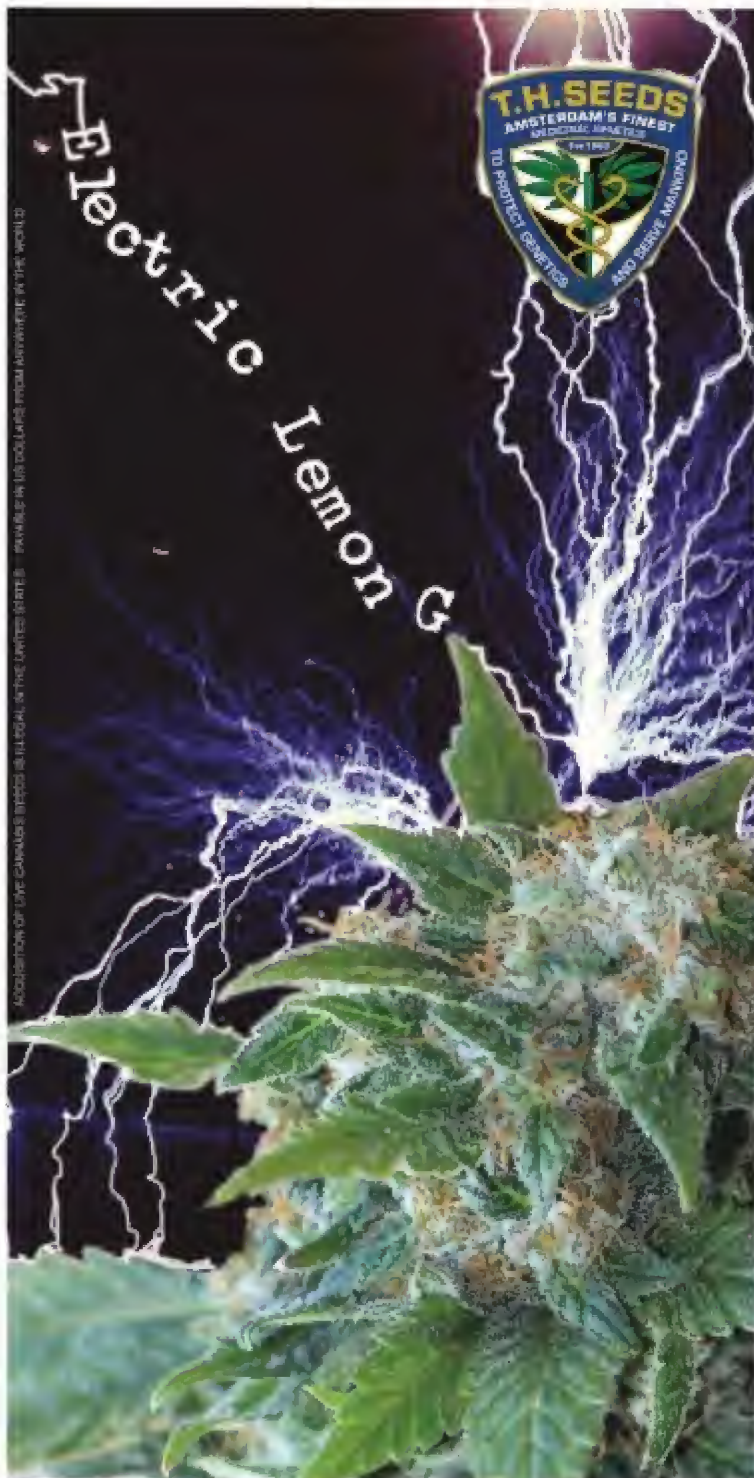
When people write to you about marijuana in literature, you always mention really old authors like Louisa May Alcott or John Greenleaf Whittier. How about something for those of us who aren't living in the past?

—Doug S.

Hi Doug,  
Check out T.C. Boyle's novel *Budding Prospects*, Scott Shrader's short story "Marijuana, Lipton Tea and Jazz," or Elisa Albert's *The Book of Dahlia*. Then let me know what you think. ✨

*Mitch Earleywine, Ph.D., is an associate professor of psychology at SUNY Albany and the author of Understanding Marijuana and The Parents' Guide to Marijuana.*

DAN SKYE



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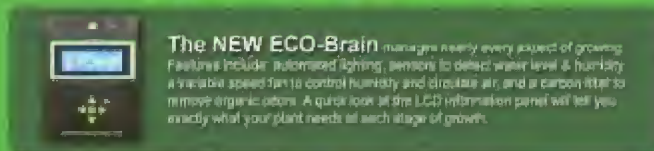
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## A Look Back at Jack

Two years after his death, a friend recalls the first time he met the Emperor.

SOON AFTER I became editor of HIGH TIMES in 1988, someone showed up in my office bearing a 60-page manuscript called *The Emperor Wears No Clothes*. That person was Doug McVay, now the director of research for Common Sense for Drug Policy, though back then he was interning at NORML. The author, of course, was Jack Herer, who'd sent it to NORML looking for a publisher. I immediately wanted to meet this Jack Herer, but I had no contact info for him. However, as luck would have it, McVay pointed him out a few weeks later at a NORML conference in Washington, DC, as he stood near the elevator bank in the hotel lobby.

I rushed over and blurted out, "Hi, Jack, I'm Steve Hager from HIGH TIMES—I'd really like to do a story on you."

Jack returned my look as he stepped into the fully loaded elevator. "You should do a story on John Sajo," he said as the door closed. (Sajo was the director of the Oregon initiative Jack was working on at the time.)

I returned to New York City the following morning and wouldn't get a chance to sit down and actually interview Jack until several weeks later, when I visited his home near Los Angeles. In that initial meeting, we ended up hatching a plan to launch the hemp movement in the United States: HIGH TIMES would publish *The Emperor Wears No Clothes* (with me as editor) while, at the same time, we would create a national volunteer-based movement to breed pro-hemp rallies across the country. And we'd attend these rallies in a psychedelic bus, in homage to the Merry Pranksters.

As it turned out, HIGH TIMES never ran the entire text of Jack's book, though

we published many excerpts as articles. More importantly, all the rest of the ideas we brainstormed that day actually came true. Few seem to remember that NORML was actively encouraging local activists not to hold pot rallies in those days, since the inevitable TV footage

of toothless hippies protesting was seen as counterproductive and putting a bad face on the movement. The favored strategy at the time was to "suit up" and lobby Congress.

But you don't really have a culture unless you gather together in groups. I selected the name "Freedom Fighters" because that's what Ronald Reagan had called the CIA-backed forces attempting to overthrow the

popular left-wing Sandinista government in Nicaragua back then. By merging hemp with the idea of our own founding fathers fighting for freedom, I wanted to take back the flag from the right wing and bring it over to our side where it belonged: After all, the first American flag was made entirely out of hemp. In the full-page ads that followed, there was always a picture of Jack wearing a tri-corner hat, asking everyone to join the HIGH TIMES Freedom Fighters.

Members were given a list of rallies to attend and told to come dressed in Colonial outfits and bring drums and flags. This was the spark that created the hemp movement in America, as members of the original Freedom Fighters fanned out across the nation and created many of the pro-legalization forces that exist today. And, needless to say, none of that would have happened if it weren't for Jack. ✨



The original Freedom Fighter, Jack Herer.

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# To Live And Dab In LA

## Our Medical Cannabis Cup Heads to Hollywood

**W**ITH MORE MARIJUANA dispensaries than Starbucks, Los Angeles is one of the undisputed cannabis capitals of the world. Of course, it's also the nation's entertainment mecca—a fact that became painfully obvious when we realized that we'd booked our humble weed competition on the same weekend as the year's biggest music awards show: the *Grammys*.

After landing at LAX, I headed straight for our base of operations—a

huge house up in Beverly Hills, complete with a heated pool and hot tub out back. (Hey, if *Playboy* can have a mansion, why can't HIGH TIMES?) We spent our first few hours in town washing away the fatigues of travel with a few Lagunitas and “tub-dabs.”

Later, as we cruised the Sunset Strip on our way to the hotel, the Doors' “L.A. Woman” came on the radio—no doubt a blessing from Reverend Jim.

And blessed we were: The weather was kind to us, as were the LAPD, who chose to keep the peace rather than create a hassle. A few pot stars showed up for the festivities, including rapper B-Real, reefer wrestler Rob Van Dam, stoner geek goddess Adrienne Curry, and Eagles of Death Metal frontman Jesse Hughes, whom I gave a personalized tour and turned on to the joys of dabbing. One celebrity, however, was noticeably absent—Wiz Khalifa, who was scheduled to accept our Stoner of the Year award on Saturday. We didn't see him until late that night—on the news, being interviewed at the Beverly Hilton's Grammys pre-party about pop singer Whitney Houston, who'd been found dead in her room that evening.

On Sunday, I made some new friends: namely, HT's legendary grow writer Mel Frank, and a cool veteran by the name of Michael, who carried around a long, bow-like peace pipe (carved from the stalk of the first cannabis plant he'd ever grown) covered with autographs from a number of famous stoners—including Cheech & Chong, Eddy Lepp and the late, great Jack Herer (whom we honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award that night). I was flattered to be asked to



Presenting the Occupy legalization flag to the crowd.

Hey, if *Playboy* can have a mansion, why can't HIGH TIMES?

smoke from it, and even more so to add my signature.

At the awards show, I was chosen to present the Cup for Best Concentrate, affording me the perfect opportunity to show off my new

“Master Miyagi” T-shirt. But I had something more meaningful to show the crowd as well: an American flag given to me by my Occupy Wall Street pal Hy-Dro. He'd left NYC two weeks prior and “occupied” his way across the country to attend our event, stopping off at cool places like the NORML headquarters in Washington, DC, and the Super Bowl in Indiana. It was there in Indianapolis that he appropriated the flag and gathered what he claimed were 20,000 signatures from people in favor of legalization. Having been presented with it, I felt obligated to him—and the whole Occupy movement—to speak about it onstage.

When the show was over, it was back to the HIGH TIMES Mansion for the after-party. Pizzas were ordered, balloons were inflated, and buds were blazed in celebration of one of our most successful events ever. Sadly, while we were all having fun smoking a harmless yet illegal drug, Whitney lay dead mere blocks away from abusing more dangerous legal ones. As Tony Bennett so bravely noted at a tribute to Houston the next day, it's high time we re-examined which drugs we outlaw in this country. 🌿

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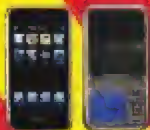
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Allen St. Pierre is the executive director of NORML. Visit [norml.org](http://norml.org).

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This is a network created in accordance with NORML's mission to educate and politically organize the public to end cannabis prohibition. It's anchored by *NORML Show Live*, the official podcast of NORML, weekdays at 7 p.m. (all shows listed are Eastern Standard Time), where you'll get current headlines from Cannabis Karri and the "Daily Toker Tune"—each one from a different musical genre. Plus you'll hear interviews with top cannabis figures as well as "Radical" Russ Belville's searing opinions and analysis on *The Radical Rant*. *Toker Talk Radio* follows immediately, our live call-in hour and roundtable discussion.

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and international activism from Cannabis Cure TV. You'll also see a variety of videos courtesy of NORML and its many chapters, plus clips from Jodie Emery, Law Enforcement Against Prohibition and Students for Sensible Drug Policy in our *Marijuana Activism Show*.

Weekdays at 9 and 10 p.m., we provide the best activist podcasts from around the world. Mondays feature *Drug Truth*

*Network* and *CannaTruth's Reefer Rhetoric*, two podcasts originating from Texas. On Tuesdays, we present *Marijuana Compassion & Common Sense* from Inland Empire, CA, and the *Cannabis Cure UK Podcast* from England. HIGH TIMES presents the latest *Free Weed from Danny Danko* on Wednesdays, which is followed by *The Libra Lounge* from Iowa. Thursdays feature the *Hot Box Podcast* from Kalispell, MT, and the *Hollywood Hempstress Hour* from Hollywood (naturally). Fridays conclude the week with *Hemp Radio* from Orange County, CA, and *THC: The High Cast* from Chicago.

On weeknights at 11 p.m., we have more live shows. On Mondays, *A Different View* features

a women's roundtable on marijuana issues. On Tuesdays, get grow tips on the *Weed Nerd with Subcool*. We jam to *The Irie Island Hour's* mix of reggae tunes on Wednesdays, and on Thursdays we turn off all the filters with *The Ganja Jon Show*. Then, on Fridays, *NORML Rocks with Urb Thrasher* finishes off the week with two solid hours of hard-hitting rock.

Also, you can always catch music at the top and bottom of the clock: At 6 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and midnight, we present *Daily Toker Tunes*, a random one-hour mix of our best music. These include *Roots Monday* (blues, jazz, folk, country), *Electric Tuesday* (electronic, disco, pop, new age), *Irie Wednesday* (reggae, ska, Latin, world), *Groovin' Thursday* (rap, hip-hop, soul, funk) and *Rockin' Friday* (metal, punk, jam, alt-country).

The lineups repeat overnight and into the morning, and the weekend features replays of all the weekdays' previous shows. So who needs National Public Radio anymore? Thanks to NORML, we now have National Pot Radio! Check it out at [live.norml.org](http://live.norml.org). ✨

### FREEDOM FIGHTER

#### Bearing Witness

A friend's suffering inspires Clint Werner's advocacy.

Clint Werner joined the medical marijuana movement when he became a caregiver for a friend suffering from AIDS. "I saw how much difference it made in his quality of life," Clint says. "He could eat and relax when he was smoking marijuana. After he died, I knew I had to help change things."

Werner dedicated himself to the cause of medical marijuana reform in California. He collected

signatures and testified in favor of San Francisco's Hemp Medications Initiative as well as Proposition 215, which legalized medical marijuana statewide in 1996. During this time, he began documenting everything medical cannabis-related that he saw unfolding around him. "I had a unique perspective on both the political and scientific arenas within the medical marijuana movement," he recalls, "so I began recording

by Erik Altieri, NORML communications coordinator



and researching as much as I could for posterity."

The resulting book, *Marijuana: Gateway to Health*, masterfully documents the research on marijuana's ability to treat conditions such as Alzheimer's, cancer and Lou Gehrig's disease. "It was intolerable for me to know that there are people having their lives ruined for using, growing or distributing a product that is profoundly beneficial," Werner states. "I pledged to work for legalization every day of my life."





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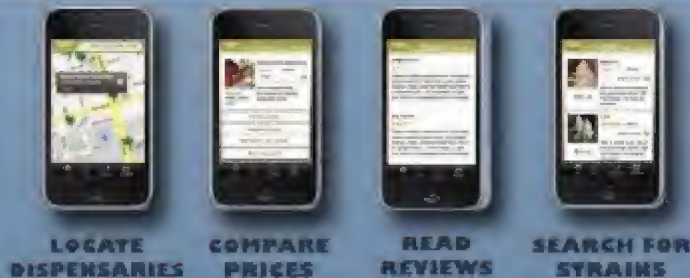
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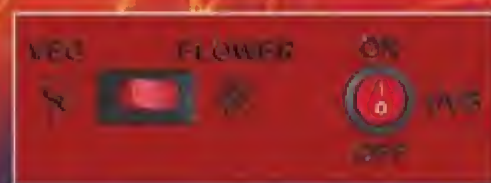
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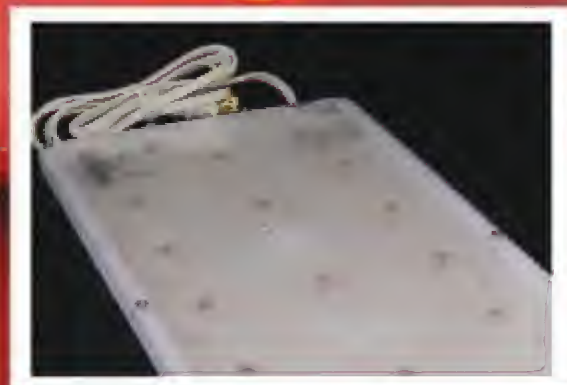
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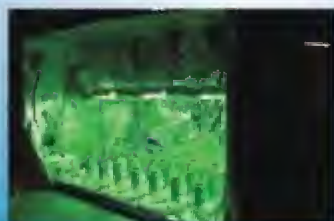
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**PLANT OF THE MONTH**

**Lots of Tops**



I've been growing for three  
years and read every issue  
of High Times. My THC Bomb is 34  
days into flowering and was low-  
stress-trained and topped twice un-  
der a 600-watt HPS. —Ganjafarmer841

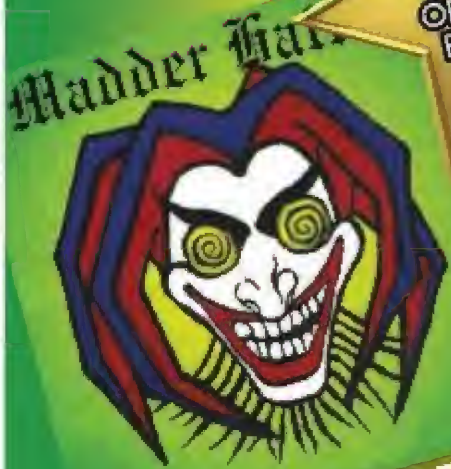


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**GARDEN OF THE MONTH**


**Duck Soup**

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**STONER OF THE MONTH**


**Great Bakes Region**

 Here's some Blueberry x NL bud. Hope you like the pics! —*Michigan Mike*



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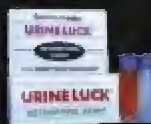
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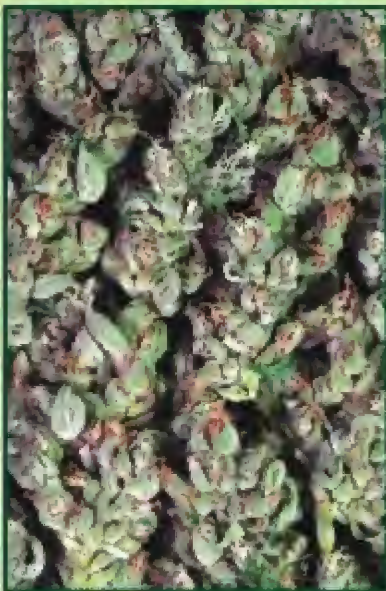


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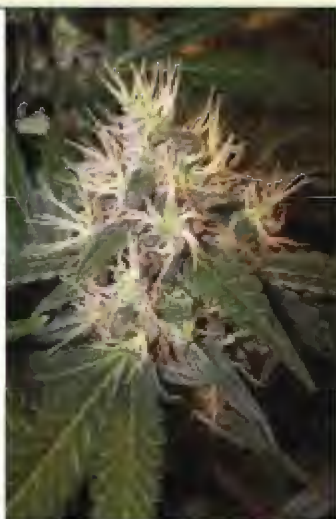
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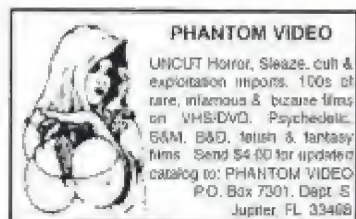
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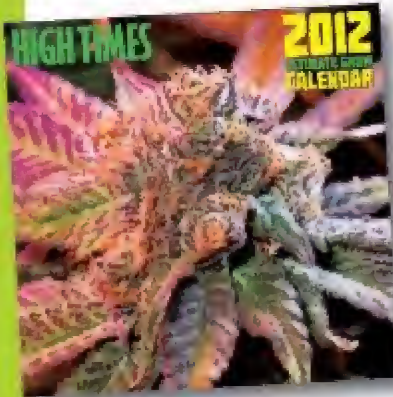


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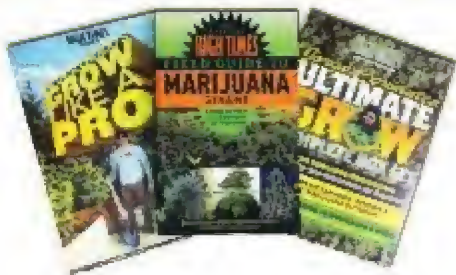
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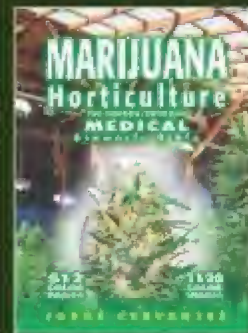


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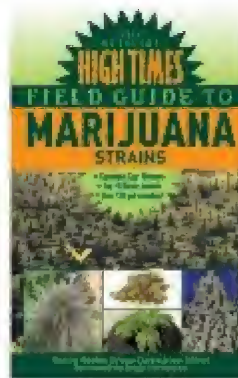


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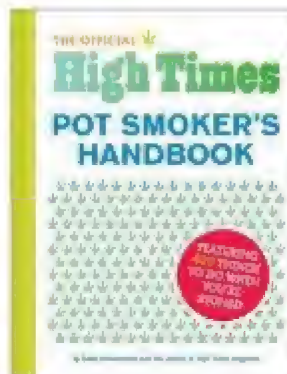
## High Times Books



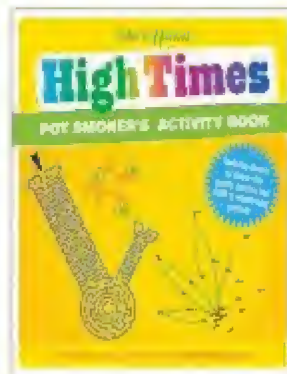
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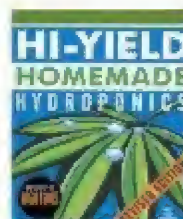
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2 'Juana will be legal or my cat's name is not Beavis Ann Budhead'

3 **Grandpoohbah**  
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4 **HAPPY 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
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5 **MIGHTYHIGH**  
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6 **FREE MARC EMERY**  
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7 **FREE MARC EMERY**  
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8 **Flower Tops Tomato Juice Blender Frappe**

9 **I LOVE my country, it's the government I'm afraid of**

10 **8:40 TWICE AS NICE**

11 **Drugs don't grow SEEDS!**

12 **TAKE ME TO MYSELF!**

13 **Kappa HX**

14 **CHEMTRAILS**

15 **PEACE IS PRICELESS WAR IS COSTLY ARMS ARE FOR HUGGING**

16 **PEACE IS PRICELESS WAR IS COSTLY ARMS ARE FOR HUGGING**

17 **God is perfect, man is not man made beer, God made POT**

18 **"The Reefer Song"**  
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19 **Enjoy your right to write while it's still legal!**

20 **Enjoy your right to write while it's still legal!**

21 **MOUNTAIN JAM**  
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22 **Back in the good old days if you bought 3 U got one free! If you think that's nifty, a pound cost fifty!**

23 **WASH DIARIES STEM!**

24 **Legalize THE BAGS**  
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25 **I LOVE you, Cindy**

26 **They burned and they dug and they dug and they burned and they killed all my cute little weeds, then they drove me away to the gray hotel...**

27 **Being the only hippie in Karate class**  
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If you take my black belt into account.

28 **Alfred Hitchcock**  
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29 **Did you know you can live on BEANS & Hemp Seeds?**

30 **420+ LIFE**  
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31 **DUMMYCRATS AND REPUBLICANS ARE ALL ASSHOLES**

32 **WEED CAN DO IT!**  
BACARDI WHITE RUM  
The official toasty of

33 **the BULL MOOSE LODGE!**

34 **"If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint', by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced."**  
-Vincent Van Gogh

35 **The guy in the steroids ad weighs 170, benches 420... I do my workout, THEN it's 4:20!**

36 **LIFE IS TOO IMPORTANT TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY!**  
-Oscar Wilde

37 **Early to bed, early to rise makes a man baggy under the eyes**

38 **NEVER TEXT & DRIVE... YOU MIGHT KNOCK OVER YOUR BEER!**

39 **"A mistake is simply another way of doing things"**  
-Katherine Graham

40 **The SUPREME COURT RULED THEY CANNOT HAVE A NATIVITY SCENE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. THIS WASN'T FOR ANY RELIGIOUS REASON, THEY JUST COULDN'T FIND THREE WISE MEN AND A VIRGIN.**

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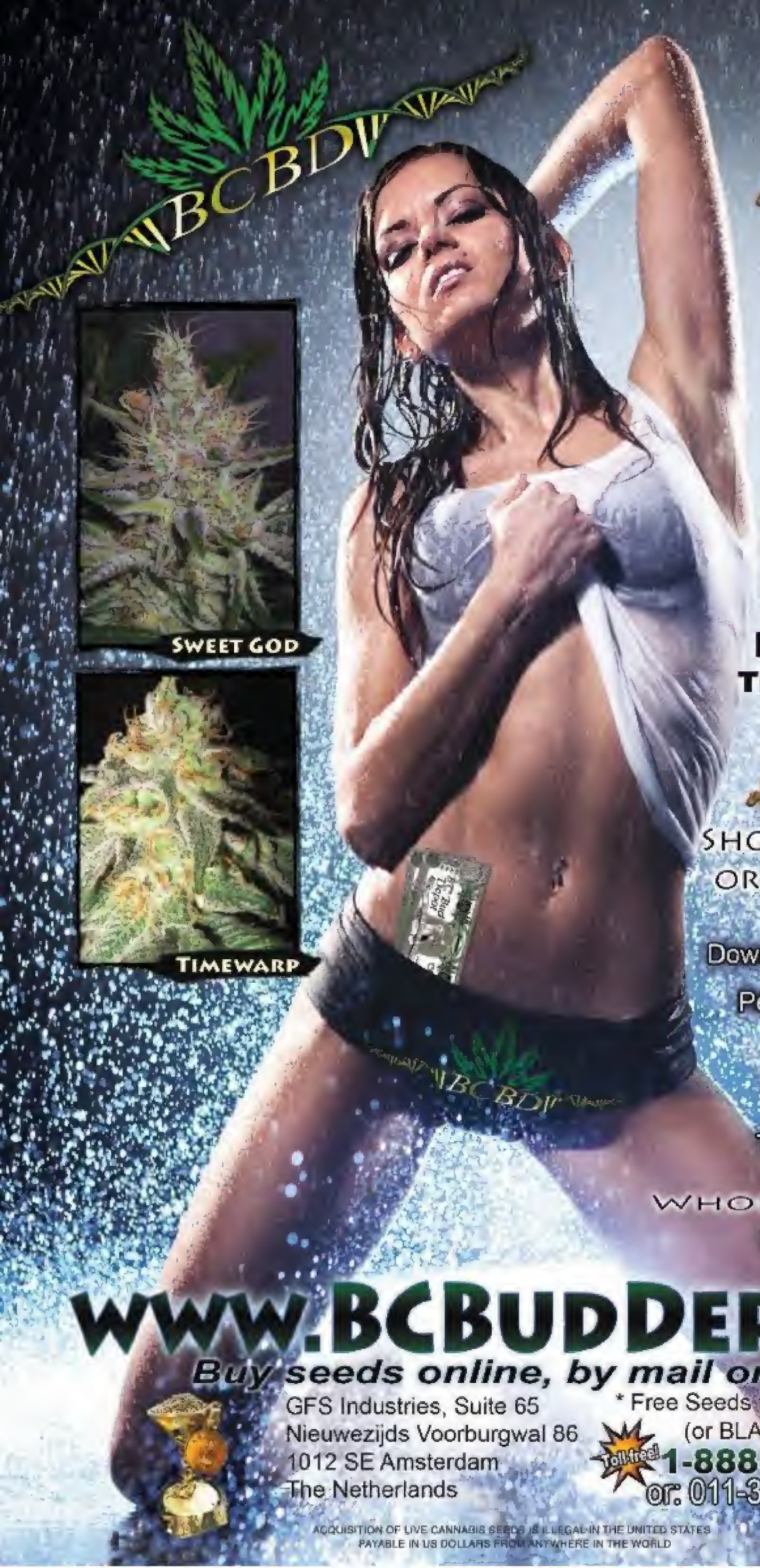
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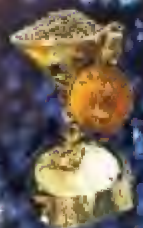
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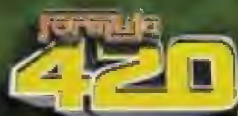
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